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*South Korea Pushes for 7-Nation Economic Group

*922C0015A Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
24 Sep 91 p 3*

[Text] The government has decided to actively form an organization for economic cooperation among Northeast Asian countries made up of representatives from seven countries: North and South Korea, the United States, Japan, China, the Soviet Union and Mongolia. The government is doing this because it intends to encourage peaceful coexistence in the region because of North-South Korean membership in the United Nations.

North-South membership in the United Nations and cross diplomatic recognition by the four powerful countries that surround North and South Korea have made the active participation of the government possible, and this is an opportune time to create the organization.

Northeast Asia has a higher degree of supplementary and mutual dependence than any other geographic region. If the United States, Japan, China, South Korea, North Korea and the Soviet Union are able to cooperate there are unlimited possibilities for development. For example: funds and skills could be provided by the United States, Japan, and South Korea and raw materials and labor could be supplied by China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union.

Recently, Robert Scalapino, a professor at the University of California expressed optimism over the possibility of China and Japan continuing to promote the organization.

On the third of last month, Professor Scalapino said in a speech at a seminar of the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) that "Northeast Asia has already shown indications that they are beginning to manage on the regional level" and that "in the future a long term organization of regional cooperation will be formed."

Government officials cited the development of the Tuman River valley area as a good example of this collaboration since both China and North Korea are involved competitively. China, North Korea and the Soviet Union surround the Tuman River area. All three were present during its development thus providing a concrete example of Northeast Asian economic cooperation.

Actually, the seven countries had their first meeting last July in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia where they discussed the development of the Tuman River Valley, and in August a second meeting was held in Changchun, China. These same member countries will meet again in October in Pyongyang, North Korea and in November in Seoul, South Korea.

The United Nations Development Plan (UNDP) lead the development of the Tuman River valley by designating Unggi, Najin and Chongjin in North Korea, Changchun in China and Posciet in the Soviet Union as special economic ports in an attempt to lure investment from the United States, South Korea and Japan. Profits will be divided equally among the land owners: North Korea, China and the USSR.

On the 27th of last month, Song Ki-tae, vice-director of the Research Institute of International Economic Interchange and Cooperation of the Social Science Academy in North Korea, stated "North Korea will coordinate its efforts with other countries to create new levels of economic cooperation in Northeast Asia." In the past, North Korea has demanded that the problem of military proliferation be resolved before the subject of economic cooperation in the area is seriously discussed, but, since North-South Korean membership in the UN, this insistence has become weaker.

The South Korean Government has a hidden reason for being involved with the idea of Northeast Asian economic cooperation, that is the hope that it will increase the pace of North Korean reformation and liberalization.

The options for improving relations between North and South Korea are limited and the South intends to solve this dilemma by leading the North into an organization where many different countries work in concert.

If the seven-nation Northeast Asian organization is established, the issue of North-South joint investment and joint ventures in third country projects would naturally be discussed in an organization of cooperation.

The organization is important because it will revive President No Tae-u's proposal for a peace conference made up of six countries in Northeast Asia that was not addressed by the 43d UN General Assembly meeting in 1988.

The meeting would have included North and South Korea, the United States, Japan, China and the Soviet Union and the agenda would have involved discussions on regional peace and security. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev proposed a similar peace conference (All Asian Process), but the United States turned a cold shoulder to this overture.

At the time President No submitted his proposal, a "special foreign policy group" worked hard and fast to give the notion shape, but, now, after three years have passed, no progress has been made. Experts on Northeast Asian countries have pointed out that it is still too early to discuss military politics and security on a regional scale. Though President No's proposal was not well received, the idea has been discussed at high levels in each country concerned.

There is a better way of achieving this goal. First, they should discuss economic plans that provide the possibility of mutual profit and cooperation. Finally, the idea of Northeast Asian cooperation can be a cornerstone for military/political discussions once countries in Northeast Asia are tied together by economic programs that are mutually profitable.

ASEAN Parliamentarians on Cambodia, Environment

BK2211042491 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 22 Nov 91

[Text] The situation in Cambodia and environmental deterioration are among major topics discussed at the 12th ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization [AIPO] General Assembly.

The AIPO working committee on political matters comprising representatives from five ASEAN countries and Brunei Darussalem on Wednesday [20 November] discussed a topic, namely situations in Cambodia, Middle East, Europe, and South Africa.

Besides, the committee also focused on Indochinese refugees and cooperation in security matters among countries in this region by requesting each government to emphasize on democratic administration.

As for situations in the Middle East, Europe, and South Africa, the committee stressed on problems relating to freedom and human rights in those countries.

Meanwhile, the committee on socioeconomic matters discussed on human resources, reduction of population growth rates, environmental deterioration, and AIDS research.

The committee agreed on Thailand's proposal to set up AIDS research center and also endorsed Malaysia's proposal to set up a women committee to encourage women's participation in national development. The committee will submit these proposals to the general assembly.

Moreover, the committee will draft an agreement to upgrade living condition of workers in foreign countries as proposed by the Philippines.

Thai Prime Minister Addresses ILO Conference

BK2611104391 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun opened the 11th Asia-Pacific regional meeting of the International Labor Organization [ILO] at Sirikit Convention Center at 1000 today. In his speech the prime minister said Thailand is a founding ILO member and has always supported activities of the ILO, which has generated financial and technical benefits for and become a center for exchanges of information, knowledge, and experience in this region. The Thai Government is aware that improved quality of life for its people must be achieved through promotion of jobs, good health, and job safety. For this reason the government has implemented the Seventh National Economic and Social Development Plan, which promotes jobs and increases in income for those who have inferior economic opportunities while at the same time supporting businesses that complement social conditions under which countries are changing from agriculturally-based to industrially-based societies. Although modern technology has been introduced, it is necessary to pay attention not just to financial returns but to safe and suitable working conditions, which translate into happiness for the people and an improved quality of life.

The prime minister said child labor is the issue that touches him the most. Happy and warm children are a valuable asset. Children belong in schools, not in factories. Deprived children whose labor is exploited will eventually cause social problems. Therefore, he is determined to eliminate illegal child labor and protect deprived children. The Thai Government is enacting a new law to severely punish exploiters of child labor. Out of its emphasis that labor is a major contributor to economic and social development, the government has a policy of establishing a Labor Ministry to ensure more effective labor management.

The current tripartite ILO regional meeting began on 25 November and ends on 2 December.

Malaysia-SRV Dispute Halts Oil Exploration

BK2611064491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0622 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Sydney, Nov 26 (AFP)—A territorial dispute between Malaysia and Vietnam has complicated plans by BHP Petroleum (BHPP) to explore for oil in the South China Sea, according to reports here Tuesday.

The Australian FINANCIAL REVIEW quoted a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade cable from Hanoi revealing that Vietnam objected to BHPP's exploration in the disputed area.

"Vietnam has warned the BHP (Broken Hill Proprietary Ltd.) subsidiary against further operations in the block in the South China Sea whose boundary is disputed with Malaysia," said the cable, dated November 11.

BHPP discovered oil and natural gas in May at block PM-3 with its Bunga Orchid-1 well.

Bryan Griffith, BHPP group general manager for Asia, told reporters that Vietnam claimed the disputed area in the Malay Basin off the east coast of Malaysia, but exploration was continuing.

"We have a contract with Malaysia and are exploring under that contract," Griffith said.

"The Vietnamese have laid claim to a portion of that area for some time," he said.

He said both BHPP and the Malaysian government were looking at the Vietnamese claim.

A spokesman for BHPP told AFP the company had nothing further to add, indicating that the dispute was between the two governments and did not involve BHPP.

BHPP has agreements with Vietnam to explore in the South China Sea.

It signed a 25-year contract in January with the national oil company PetroVietnam to look for oil and natural gas over 19,000 square kilometres (7,600 square miles) in two blocks off the central coast. An extensive marine seismic survey is under way and drilling is expected to start early next year.

Japan

Antitrust Talks With U.S. Officials Conclude

OW2711032991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0202 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Washington, Nov. 26 (KYODO)—Japanese and U.S. antitrust officials ended two days of talks Tuesday in which the Japanese side said car dealerships in Japan are becoming more open to imports.

Japanese participants said they told their U.S. counterparts progress is being made in loosening the grip of "Keiretsu"—Japan's web of corporate cross-holding of shares—on the automobile sales business.

Japanese automakers are gradually removing the restrictions they impose on affiliated dealers against selling cars produced by other manufacturers and handling nonauthorized auto parts, the Japanese officials reportedly told the U.S. side.

That adjustment process, according to the Japanese officials, will be complete by year's end.

U.S. officials have blamed the exclusionary relationship between Japanese automakers and dealers handling their products as a main barrier impeding U.S. car makers' access to the Japanese market.

The U.S. expressed appreciation for efforts by Japanese car makers to loosen the Keiretsu ties but offered no definite comment, Japanese officials said.

The Japanese team was headed by Setsuo Umezawa, chairman of the Japanese Fair Trade Commission, and the U.S. side was led by Janet Steiger, chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

The American officials told the Japanese they are still conducting a fact-finding study on the Japanese auto business commissioned by U.S. Congress.

Japanese officials said the two sides also exchanged views on international cooperation on antitrust policies.

The two days of talks were part of regular top-level contacts the two government antitrust agencies hold each year to compare notes on antitrust enforcement.

Minister Concerned Over Resurging Trade Surplus

OW2711043291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0308 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 (KYODO)—International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Kozo Watanabe on Wednesday called for cooperation from Japan's high-technology industry to reduce the country's burgeoning trade surplus with major trading partners, a ministry official said.

In a meeting with top officials from the electrical, electronics, and information-related industries, Watanabe voiced concern that Japan's resurging trade surplus with the United States and the European Community (EC) might heighten protectionist moves in those nations.

Japan is the biggest beneficiary of the free trade system, so some "constructive" measures should be taken to avert this scenario, the official quoted him as saying.

The MITI chief called on the business leaders to make active commitments to the ministry's import expansion scheme, known as the "Business Global Partnership Action Program," aimed at goading Japanese industry into importing more.

The United States has grown impatient with its unabated trade deficit with Japan, which accounts for more than 60 percent of the total deficit, while Japan's surging trade gap with the EC, at 23 billion dollars in the first 10 months this year, is also frustrating Brussels.

Watanabe also requested industry leaders to buy more foreign chips to realize a "prosperous coexistence" with U.S. and other foreign chipmakers under an extended Japan-U.S. accord on chip trade.

EC Official Says Tariffs Should Include Rice

OW2711074291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0650 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Osaka, Nov. 27 KYODO—European Community (EC) Vice President Frans Andriessen said Wednesday there is no reason to exempt rice from a proposal to convert trade barriers into tariffs.

The U.S.-initiated proposal aims at bridging a gap between Washington and Brussels over farm trade, thus helping to bring the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks to a successful conclusion.

Andriessen said at a press conference in Osaka a common rule for farm products was needed and that tariffication was emerging as the consensus choice.

He said he understood that rice is special to the Japanese but said it had much in common with other farm products in the EC and should not be handled differently.

Calling farm trade talks delicate not only for Japan but also for the United States and the EC, Andriessen called on all participating countries to do their part to ensure that the Uruguay Round is a success.

He said the EC's reduction of export subsidies was a major concession and urged Tokyo to reciprocate, asking if limited imports would fundamentally hurt Japan's domestic producers.

He also called for more balance in bilateral investment, saying Japan's cumulative investment in the EC is 55 billion dollars, compared with the EC's 3 billion dollars in Japan.

Committee Rams Through UN Peacekeeping Bill

OW2711125691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 KYODO—A special committee of the House of Representatives on Wednesday railroaded a bill to endorse the government's sending of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas to help U.N. peacekeeping operations.

The 50-member committee passed the bill with support from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP).

The committee railroaded the bill in the midst of shouting and shoving from ruling and opposition party parliamentarians shortly after an LDP member proposed a motion calling for an end to the committee's deliberations on the bill.

It is the first time that a bill allowing for the dispatch of SDF personnel overseas has been passed by a Diet committee since the SDF was set up in 1954.

In revising the bill, the LDP and Komeito submitted a motion to ensure that the government seek approval from parliament on whether to continue the SDF's overseas peacekeeping operations two years after SDF personnel first go abroad.

The bill also allows for the dispatch of SDF personnel overseas to participate in disaster relief operations.

The DSP was opposed to the revised bill and submitted a different motion calling on the government to seek approval from the Diet every six months on whether to continue SDF participation in U.N. peacekeeping forces. The DSP motion was rejected.

The No. 1 opposition party, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) voted against the bill, which they said violates the war-renouncing constitution.

Both parties claim the participation of the SDF in U.N. peacekeeping forces is unconstitutional as the constitution prohibits the use of force to resolve international disputes.

Senior SDP and JCP officials said the parties demand the bill should be declared null and void.

The bill, setting the maximum number of troops to be sent overseas at 2,000, is expected to pass the plenary session of the Lower House Thursday.

The government and the LDP submitted the bill to the Diet on September 19 after working it out in cooperation with the centrist Komeito and DSP.

At the committee's deliberations, the DSP still had some unresolved differences with the LDP and Komeito on Diet approval of the dispatch of SDF personnel but agreed on dispatching them in principle.

Former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu proposed a similar bill last fall that would have allowed the SDF to support the multinational forces in the Persian Gulf.

But the legislation was killed in November last year after it ran into stiff resistance from opposition parties.

Miyazawa Seeks Joint-UN Cooperation With India

OW2711134891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1331 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa appears to have called for cooperation between Japan and India to realize their mutual goal of expanding the number of permanent seats on the U.N. Security Council, according to a text of the prime minister's remarks obtained Wednesday.

Foreign Ministry officials said Miyazawa's message was conveyed Tuesday to the 20th Japan-India Study Committee at the start of that government-affiliated forum's two-day meeting.

"Both Japan and India have an important role to play in establishing peace, stability, and prosperity, not only in Asia but also in the whole world," the message in English said.

"It is therefore expected that the two countries coordinate their efforts for a desired goal," it said.

"In this connection, I note with satisfaction that Japan will become once again a member of the Security Council of the United Nations next year, as India has been since last year."

India has adamantly protested that the current configuration of the 15-seat council is biased and unfair, as the five permanent seats are monopolized by the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain, and France—the major victor countries of World War II.

Japan, which has long hinted that it too is deserving of a permanent seat on the council in view of its relative weight in global affairs and its large share of contributions to the U.N. budget, has become increasingly outspoken on the issue.

Foreign Ministry officials denied that Miyazawa's mention of "a desired goal" shared by Japan and India was a specific reference to a reconfiguration of the Security Council.

One official suggested that the prime minister merely meant that both countries should "reactivate their roles in being nonpermanent members."

Another said, "it may imply that Japan and India may work together for peace but it doesn't imply that this means Japan is proposing a reorganization of the Security Council with Indian cooperation."

Officials acknowledged that the two countries have had "exchanges of views in general terms" on the issue of reorganizing the U.N. in the past but would not say if those talks touched on the specific issue of permanent membership on the council.

Proposed Shevardnadze Visit 'Very Good Thing'

OW2711035791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0337 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 (KYODO)—Japan responded favorably Wednesday to a reported proposal by Soviet Foreign Relations Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to visit Japan for talks on economic cooperation and the long-pending dispute over islands north of Japan.

The proposed visit "reflects his positive interest in advancing Japan-Soviet relations and is a very good thing," said a senior Foreign Ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In October, former Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, who left the cabinet on November 4, extended an invitation to Shevardnadze's predecessor, Boris Pankin, who has assumed the post of Soviet ambassador to Britain.

The ministry official said Japan's invitation at that time must have been relayed to Shevardnadze.

"The plan to visit Japan has not yet been conveyed to us through diplomatic channels and a discussion on the timing of the visit has not yet been initiated," he said.

Diplomatic analysts voiced reservations, however, over the prospects that the Shevardnadze visit could break a long-time stalemale over Japan's demand to resume sovereignty over the four islands.

They said Russian President Boris Yeltsin's claim on his republic's say in the territorial negotiations may undercut Shevardnadze's mandate in the territoral bargaining.

The four islands, on which the Soviet forces maintain military installations, are under the administrative jurisdication of the Russian Republic.

Visiting Lithuanian Premier Meets Trade Minister

OW2611151291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1353 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 26 KYODO—Lithuania hopes to sign an investment protection accord with Japan, visiting Lithuanian Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius said Tuesday.

In a meeting with Minister of International Trade and Industry Kozo Watanabe, Vagnorius said his country needs to strengthen cooperation with western nations to succeed in its ongoing economic reforms.

Lithuania hopes to reach an agreement with Japan to protect investors as it did with the United States recently, he said.

Watanabe said that improving an investment environment is vital for successful reforms, and that he will consult with other Japanese authorities concerned on the proposed accord.

Finance Minister Backs Lithuania's IMF Bid

OW2711043191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 (KYODO)—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata told the visiting Lithuanian prime minister Wednesday that he will back the country's bid for membership in the International Monetary Fund (IMF), ministry officials said.

Gediminas Vagnorius told Hata that Lithuania is trying to change into a market economy and talks are under way with Japanese corporations to establish business relations. He also invited Hata to Lithuania.

The Japanese finance chief said that although he cannot specify the timing yet, he is willing to make the trip.

He also said Japan is ready to support Lithuania's economic reforms.

Ex-Im Bank, Italian Bank Promote Cooperation

OW2711012091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0056 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 (KYODO)—The Export-Import [Ex-Im] Bank of Japan has agreed with Italy's Istituto Centrale Per Il Credito a Medio Termine (Mediocredito) to promote business cooperation between Japanese and Italian firms jointly operating in third countries, an Ex-Im Bank spokesman said Wednesday.

Mediocredito is a major governmental bank dealing with official export credits, direct loans for economic cooperation to foreign countries, and offering credits to small- and medium-sized enterprises in Italy.

Seminar on Sea Level Changes Opens in Tokyo

OW2611023791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0214 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 26 KYODO—A two-day international seminar on rising sea levels caused by global warming started Tuesday at the Maritime Safety Agency in Tokyo, with experts from 11 countries attending.

The seminar aims to strengthen monitoring of sea levels in the Asian and Oceanian region, organizers said.

The world's average sea level has risen by 10 centimeters in the past 100 years, a United Nations report shows. The report projects it will rise by another 44 centimeters by the year 2070 from the present.

Because of the rising levels, many islands and low-lying coastal land are expected to sink in the future.

While Europe and North America have been observing sea levels with satellites, many Asian nations have yet to establish observation systems to monitor levels, the organizers said.

Participants to the seminar include experts from Australia, Indonesia, China, South Korea, and international organizations, they said.

The two-day meeting is scheduled to discuss further international cooperation of monitoring activities.

Police Agency Hosts Seminar on Crime in Asia

OW2611033491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0320 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 26 KYODO—Scores of police officers from the Asian-Pacific region started discussions Tuesday on how to cope with organized crime in a seminar sponsored by the National Police Agency.

The agency invited 34 investigating representatives from 16 countries and regions and the international criminal police organization to the fourth seminar on organized crime in Asia, to be held through December 1 in Tokyo.

During the six-day seminar, officials from countries including South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, the United States, Australia, and Canada, and Hong Kong will talk about organized crime and measures they take to deal with it.

Japanese criminal organizations are now targeting Asia to buy drugs and guns, and scout for women to work at bars back home, according to police officials.

They say cooperation among international investigators is necessary to control criminal syndicates which have become more and more active overseas.

Bank Governor Advocates Avoiding 'Easy' Measures

OW2711075491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0655 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday that "easy" measures to boost domestic demand should be avoided.

That is because there is little possibility of the domestic economy falling off suddenly and the basic trend in capital spending remains firm, he said.

"Easy measures to buoy domestic demand would do harm to the stability of prices," he said at a regular press conference.

"When we think of a reduction in Japan's trade surplus, it is necessary to push ahead with the efforts to open Japanese markets, instead of easy-going measures to buoy the domestic economy," he said.

Mieno also pointed to the need to stabilize the yen-dollar rate in the direction of a higher value for the Japanese currency.

Major Power Firms To Encourage Foreign Bidders

OW2611174691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1501 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 26 KYODO—Japan's four major electric power companies said Tuesday they will introduce an action program next fiscal year for encouraging foreign bidders in their materials procurement tenders as a part of government-promoted efforts to correct the imbalance in Japan's foreign trade. The electric power companies involved are Tokyo Electric Power Co., Kansai Electric Power Co., Chubu Electric Power Co., and Kyushu Electric Power Co.

Officials of the four companies said the plan is in line with the so-called "business global partnership" program being pushed by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). Another five electric power companies are likely to decide on a similar program, they said.

According to the officials, raw materials procurement by the nine major electric power companies amounted to about 2.5 trillion yen in fiscal 1990. Opening the door wider to foreign bidders could make a substantial contribution to narrowing the nation's surging trade surplus.

Under the program, the companies will change their bidding system to one of tender by specified bidders from the usual optional contract method at present. Under the optional contract approach, the electrical firms pick from a pool of registered contractors. In addition, they will publicize their yearly procurement plans at the beginning of the year. Registration systems and procedures will also be made more transparent. If losers in a tender request explanations for their failure to land a contract, replies will be given, according to the officials.

The officials said the specified bidder method was used for only 20-30 percent of total procurement last year in the electric power industry.

Of the 1 trillion yen procurement by Tokyo Electric Power, only 300 billion yen was contracted through such tender.

Foreign procurement in the electric power industry amounted to about 34 billion yen, a mere 1.4 percent of the industry's total procurements. The companies plan to make raise the proportion of procurement contracts based on tender to more than 50 percent of the total.

Year-On-Year Industrial Production Declines

OW2611075891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0730 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 26 KYODO—Japan's industrial production in October recorded the first year-on-year decline in more than four years, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said in a preliminary report Tuesday.

October output at factories and mines shrank 2.0 percent, unadjusted for seasonal factors, from a year earlier, for the first yearly fall since May 1987, after rising 1.7 percent in September and 0.2 percent in August.

On a seasonally adjusted month-to-month basis, output in October fell 0.4 percent, following September's 0.5 percent rise and August's 2.5 percent decline.

The ministry originally predicted October production would rise 2.6 percent from September, but the actual figure was substantially lower due to "across-the-board downward revisions in the Japanese industry," said Eiichi Ono, director of MITI's Statistics Analysis Division.

The results show that corporate confidence is suffering "major depression," he said.

October's output index came to 127.1 against 100 in the base year of 1985, after seasonal factors are taken into account. The unadjusted index stood at 130.2.

The ministry's monthly industrial output report also said October shipments dropped an adjusted 1.5 percent from the previous month, as opposed to a 0.9 percent rise posted in September.

Compared with the year-before levels, shipments were 2.3 percent lower, for the first year-on-year drop in almost five years.

The slowdown in the Japanese economy was also evident in the inventory figures, which showed an increase of 1.9 percent from September and ballooned 10.6 percent from a year earlier.

This is the first time stockpiles posted a double-digit increase on a yearly basis in about 10 years.

The latest report estimates that industrial output will edge up 0.3 percent in November and grow 1.6 percent in December.

THK Licenses Linear Motion Systems to USSR

OW2711023491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0139 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 (KYODO)—THK Co., Japan's top maker of linear motion systems, has licensed that technology and related equipment to the Soviet Ministry of Industry for some 10 million dollars, a company spokesman said Wednesday.

The spokesman said his company is also planning joint production of linear motion systems used in machine tools, robots, and semiconductor inspection equipment.

Under the licensing pact, THK will obtain 4 million dollars in patent fees and provide linear motion system equipment worth 6 million dollars, the spokesman said. The two sides reached the licensing agreement six months ago, but the actual implementation of it had been delayed because of political and economic turmoil in the Soviet Union, he added.

THK Is the largest Japanese supplier of linear motion systems, with a market share of some 70 percent.

Joint-Auto Electronics Venture With South Korea

OW2611122591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 26 KYODO—Omron Corp. will establish a joint venture in Seoul in early December to produce automotive electronics components to expand its operations with the Korean auto industry, company officials said Tuesday.

The joint venture to be called Omron Automotive Electronics Korea Co., will be set up and its production is to begin in May 1992, Omron officials said.

Omron will put up 65 percent of the joint venture's capital of 2.5 billion won (about 500 million yen) and the Korean partner, Tong Hae Co., will provide the remaining 35 percent.

Projected sales for the first year are about 400 million yen with sales forecast to reach 4 billion yen in fiscal 1995, Omron officials said.

This new company is Omron's third automotive components manufacturing base abroad—it has U.S. and Canadian ventures.

North Korea

U.S.-ROK 25 Nov Military Exercises Reported

SK2711052891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0506 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 27 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Air Forces and Naval commands staged a large-scale joint air strike exercise in the sky above South Korea on November 25, according to military sources.

The exercise involving some 200 fighter-bombers, observation planes and assault planes was aimed at testing the readiness of urgent sorties to the operational theatre and increasing the capacity of joint strike at targets in the coastal areas and inland of the northern half of Korea.

Motorized units of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces staged an attack exercise on the same day with the goal of increasing the capacity of quickly moving to the interior of the northern half of Korea and participating in battles in the "event of contingency".

On the 25th, armoured and motorized infantry units of the South Korean puppet army staged a ball-firing exercise aimed at breaking through the Military Demarcation Line and making a successful thrust into the interior of the North under the support of some 30 fighter planes including F-5 and F-4 belonging to the puppet air force.

On the same day, several formations of transport helicopters, armed helicopters and fighter planes staged air strike and parachuting exercises.

The warplanes mobilized in the military manoeuvres against the North staged in the air above South Korea on the 25th totalled some 550.

South Officials' Remarks on Inspection Denounced

SK2711055691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 27 (KCNA)—Speaking at the puppet National Assembly Monday, puppet Defence Minister Yi Chong-ku drivelled that it is "wrong" for the North to demand inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea, alleging that nuclear weapons of a nuclear weapon state cannot be an object of inspection in view of the "international law", according to a radio report from Seoul.

This is an absolute baloney that could be uttered by nobody but a thorough-paced traitor to the nation who is trying hard to prolong his remaining days by dint of U.S. nuclear weapons.

According to Japanese NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN November 23, puppet Prime Minister Chong Won-sik also let out a balderdash against the inspection of U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea. These facts show how embarrassed the puppets are at our demand for simultaneous inspection which enjoys unquestioned support of the world's peace- loving people.

It is absurd for the puppets to talk about the "international law". The nuclear weapons whose withdrawal we demand and of which we urge simultaneous inspection, are the U.S. nuclear weapons which have been illegally deployed in the territory of South Korea, aiming to destroy the Korean nation, not those in the territory of the United States or elsewhere.

The U.S. imperialists and their stooges must withdraw the more than 1,000 pieces of U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea before anything else, instead of kicking up a row over somebody's fictitious "development of nuclear weapons".

Women's Conference Delegates Discuss Reunification

SK2711050691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul November 26 (KCNA correspondent)—The second seminar on "Peace of Asia and the Role of Women" has begun at Ramada Olympia Hotel today.

Present at the seminar are the members of the North side's delegation led by Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, Presidium member of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and permanent member of the C.C., the Korean Democratic Women's Union.

Also present there is the South side's delegation led by Yi U- chong, vice-chairwoman of the South Korean Christian Church Council and executive chairwoman of the Democratic Party.

The seminar is also participated in by a Japanese delegation headed by Sumiko Shimizu, chairperson of the Japan Women's Association.

Korean women overseas and in South Korea are present at the seminar as observers.

Delegate Chong Myong-sun, the spokeswoman for our side, delivered a keynote report on the subject "Reunification and Women" in the afternoon.

Pointing out that the driving force in the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification is the seventy million fellow countrymen in the North, South and overseas, she stressed: We women turn one of the two wheels of reunification.

What is necessary for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country at the present stage is, first of all, to avert the danger of a war and ensure a durable peace on the Korean peninsula, she said, and continued:

Contrary to the women's desire for peace, the military spendings are on the constant increase, sophisticated weapons of destruction are massively introduced into the peninsula and provocative military manoeuvres are staged almost every day. Worse still, pressure for a unilateral "nuclear inspection" is now being put on the North and even "military sanctions" against it are cried for, bringing the situation to all the more dangerous brink of war.

For the sake of peace on the Korean peninsula, we women should unite strength and will for the adoption of a nonaggression declaration, the realization of disarmament, the signing of a peace agreement, the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and the conversion of the peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, she said, adding:

Advantages of the proposal for founding a confederal state put forward by respected President Kim Il-song lies in that it would make it possible to solve the reunification question smoothly in a peaceful way in accordance with the principle of neither side conquering the other or being conquered.

She called upon the women in the North and the South to make joint efforts to convene a political consultative meeting for national reunification with a view to finding and deciding upon a way of reunifying the country.

The women should not only join various reunification movement organizations but also direct great efforts to achieving a firm unity under the banner of the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), she noted.

A due attention should be paid to realising independent dialogues and contacts between women in the North, the South and overseas for the promotion of the national reunification, she said that dialogue should be held between authorities, between civilians, and politicians and economic personalities should also meet and the women, too, should meet.

Cho Hyong, a professor of the sociological department of Ehwa Women's University in Seoul, made a keynote report on the subject "Patriarchal Culture and Women" on behalf of the South side at the seminar in the morning.

She said that the purpose of the presentation of the paper "Patriarchal Culture and Women" is to examine what women problem are raised by the social life of women under the patriarchal culture of the contemporary society and clarify how to seek the way for the peace-loving women of Asia and women in the South and the North desirous of unification to cooperate with each other and overcome the domination by the patriarchal culture.

Turning to the women's problem in the South Korean society, she noted that women still find themselves in position much inferior to men.

Pointing to "division and patriarchal culture", she stressed that the hostile relations that exist between the South and the North due to division are bringing too big burden of military spending and this is naturally increasing their sufferings.

Proposing to put an end to the patriarchal domination, she underscored the necessity to pursue the national unification as a mission to be accomplished come what may and called on the women in the South, the North and in Japan to seek whatever job they can undertake together.

Delegate Kim Son-ok of our side made a speech clarifying our stand as regards the keynote report of the South side.

She further said: Our country being divided into the North and the South, the question of the women is raised differently. As South Korea is under the occupation of the U.S. forces and for other reasons there arises the question of social emancipation of the women. But a superior socialist system centred on the people has been established in the northern half of the Republic and all the women have become the genuine mistress of the country and society equal to the men, and, therefore, the question of the social emancipation of the women has been already solved and now there remains tasks to be fulfilled after the social liberation of the women.

The South Korean women, she pointed out, are in an unequal position vis-a-vis the men in the aspects of education, recruitment, employment, promotion and posting, etc.

The northern half of the country where the emancipation of women had been realised continues to promote the work of further enhancing the status of the women to suit the phase of bringing to completion socialism of our style, an embodiment of the chuche idea.

The seminar continues.

Women's Delegation Tours South National Assembly

SK2711011891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
2219 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul November 26 (KCNA correspondent)—The women's delegation of the North side led by Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairwoman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and its entourage went round the "National Assembly" of South Korea and met with female "national assemblymen" this afternoon.

Present there on the South side were Pak Yong-sok, executive chairwoman of the Democratic Party and five other female "national assemblymen".

Also on hand were Sumiko Shimizu, member of the [Japanese] House of Councilors, and Mutsuko Miki.

Referring to the socio-political position and role of women, head of the North side's delegation Yo Yon-ku said the question of women has been solved satisfactorily in the Northern half of our Korea.

She noted that deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly are faithful servants of the popular masses.

Talking about the question of national reunification, she said: The way of reunification should be confirmed quickly in order to achieve the reunification. The parliament reflecting the people's will should step forward and solve this important and responsible matter.

The feasible way of reunification in our country is to establish confederation based on the coexistence of the two systems since there are different systems in the North and the South and neither side would give up its system.

On scores of occasions our Supreme People's Assembly has discussed the national reunification question an the question of guaranteeing peace and taken steps for them. The South Korean "National Assembly" should also exercise its influence on their solution.

Chon In-chol Returns After Talks With Japan

*SK2311152591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1510 GMT 23 Nov 91*

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA)—A government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Chon In-chol flew back home today after participating in the fifth intergovernmental talks for the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations in Beijing.

The delegation was met at the airport by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Chae-sok and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi.

Party Friendship Delegation Leaves for PRC

*SK2611143091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1024 GMT 26 Nov 91*

[Text] Pyongyang November 26 (KCNA)—A friendship visiting group of the the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by An Mun-hon, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, left here today to visit China.

It was seen off at the airport by Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and Chiang Zhongcai, counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang.

Veteran Delegation Meets PRC Military Leader

*SK2711062391 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 23 Nov 91*

[Text] Liu Huaqian, vice chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission, today met with our country's veteran delegation led by Kim Ik-hyon, general of the Korean People's Army.

At a meeting, he asked the chief delegate to convey his warm greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Attending were Han Huaizhi, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and Chu Chang-chun, our country's ambassador to China.

Talks were held in a friendly atmosphere.

Delegation Ends Visit

*SK2711062791 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 23 Nov 91*

[Text] Our country's veteran delegation led by Kim Ik-hyon, general of the Korean People's Army [KPA], which visited China, returned home by airplane on 23 November.

The delegation was met at the airport by Chon Mun-sop, the KPA general, and Wang Dahui, military attache of the PRC Embassy in our country.

Kim Tal-hyon Addresses Group of 77 in Tehran

*SK2411082391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0806 GMT 24 Nov 91*

[Text] Pyongyang November 24 (KCNA)—Head of the DPRK delegation Kim Tal-hyon, vice-premier of the Administration Council and chairman of the External Economy Commission, speaking at the ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 [G-77] which opened in Tehran on November 19, touched on South-South cooperation.

Referring to South-North negotiations, he said that in order to successfully promote it, first of all, developing countries should work out a productive and feasible common strategy, strengthen unity and solidarity and take concerted action in negotiation with the North.

He further said:

We believe that when the developing countries develop South-South cooperation on the principle of national and collective self-reliance, they can raise their position in negotiations and tide over their economic difficulties without setback.

It is our view that if the developing countries rationally tap and utilize their huge manpower, inexhaustible natural resources, fine experiences and technologies, they can successfully realise South-South cooperation.

The existence of the Group of 77 is important, he said, adding: If the group is to fulfil its duty and role successfully, it must preserve its intrinsic character, further promote unity and solidarity and, at the same time, must not allow any attempt to divide and weaken it.

In conclusion, he stressed: The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will in the future, too, strengthen and develop multi-faceted cooperation and exchange with all countries in the political, economic, cultural and other domains on the principles of independence, equality and mutual benefits and make utmost efforts to increase the function and role of the G-77.

Delegation Returns From Iran

*SK2611143891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1027 GMT 26 Nov 91*

[Text] Pyongyang November 26 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Kim Tal-hyon, vice- premier and chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission, flew back home today after participating in the 7th ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 which was held in Iran.

Man, Family Defect From South to North

*SK2711103291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1019 GMT 27 Nov 91*

[Text] Pyongyang November 27 (KCNA)—Son Su-kuk, 30, director of the Taegu Mirae Architectural Designing

Office, manager of the Kyonghyang Restaurant and special member of the financial policy of the Democratic Party in South Korea, availing himself of an opportunity of his trip abroad, came over to the Northern half of Korea together with his wife Song Hwa-sun and six year old daugther Son A-ra.

His hometown is Wanjon-dong, Sinnyong-myon, Yongchon County, North Kyongsang Province.

His elder brother and sisters are now in South Korea.

Song Hwa-sun worked as headmistress of a dance school in Taegu after graduating from Keimyong University.

Son Su-kuk said they decided to come over to the North because they were disillusioned with the politics of the No Tae-u "regime". I became convinced that under the present "regime" which is enforcing "security-oriented rule", intelligence politics, politics not for the people, I could not but fall victim to it, to say nothing of political activities, he said, and went on: While taking part in political activities including the student movement from my university days, I heard a lot about the North where everyone is equally well off without any distinction, unlike the society of the South where "the rich get ever richer and the poor poorer", and came to long for the North from the bottom of my heart.

In particular, through overseas compatriots who had been to the North, I could have a better knowledge of the North where my fellow countrymen live. In this course, I became convinced that the North is the very place in which I can live a genuine life and so I came over to the North with my family.

Dailies Carry Editorials on Local Elections

SK2611142391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 26 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry editorials on the successful elections of deputies to the city and county People's Assemblies in Korea.

Recalling that the entire electors participated in the elections with trust in the people's power and 100 percent of them voted for the candidates, NODONG SINMUN says:

This is a great event that powerfully demonstrated the advantages of our socialist system in which the people are the master of power and the solidness of our revolutionary ranks in which the entire people are rallied closely behind the party and the leader.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"As the revolution and construction have progressed, the political and economic foundations of the people's government have been further strengthened and its functions and role markedly enhanced. As the most revolutionary and independent socialist power, our people's government is today leading the just cause of our people confidently along the road to a magnificent victory."

The elections marked an important occasion in strengthening our people's power, a powerful weapon in the revolution and construction, and enhancing its functions and role.

The results of the elections also clearly showed the great traits of our society united around the party and the leader as firm as a rock.

Through the elections our people fully showed once again what strong determination and will they have to carry on the revolution to the end under the guidance of the party in whatever adversities and difficulties.

The elections were an important occasion also in powerfully demonstrating the advantages of our-style socialism which embodies the chuche idea and bringing about a greater upsurge in socialist construchion.

Nothing can break the faith of our people in our-style socialism incomparably superior to the corrupt capitalist society. The results of the elections showed the great pride and revolutionary spirit of our people who are steadfastly defending the revolutionary banner of socialism.

Noting that our people will as ever dynamically advance with deep confidence in the victory of the socialist cause of chuche, the daily outlines the tasks to further strengthen the people's power.

MINJU CHOSON calls upon all the officials and working people to further consolidate and develop our people's power and bring the advantages of our-style socalism centred on the masses of the people into full play with the pride of splendid success in the elections.

KCNA Reviews 26 Nov Pyongyang Press

SK2611060891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0512 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang November 26 (KCNA)—Papers here today give prominence to a report of the Central Guidance Committee for the elections to the city and county people's assemblies of the DPRK that 99.89 percent of the entire voters participated in the elections held on November 24 and 100 percent of them voted for the candidates for deputies to the city and county people's assemblies registered at the constituencies.

Printed in the papers are editorials hailing the successful elections.

It is reported in papers that the great leader President Kim Il- song sent a wreath to the grave of Mr. Yo Un-hyong who was the leader of the People's Party founded in the southern half of the country right after the country was liberated on August 15, 1945, and vice-chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Yo Yon-ku who is staying in South Korea as head of the women's delegation of the North side to the second seminar "On Peace of Asia and the Role of Women" called at the grave of Mr. Yo Un-hyong, her father, and laid this wreath at it.

Answers of President Kim Il-song to the questions raised by the director of the Iwanami Shoten Publishers of Japan were reported in different countries, according to the press.

The press informs the readers that works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were studied and disseminated in various countries.

Econews of the press includes reports about increased production of non-ferrous metal ores at the Komdok mining complex and of coal at coal mines across the country.

Under the title "Let Us Launch a Powerful Chong Chun-sil Movement", NODONG SINMUN begins to edit a debate column for learning from the loyalty of twice labour heroine Chong Chun-sil, director of the Chonchon County, Chagang Province, Commercial Management Office, who has sincerely worked for the people.

Appearing in the press is an account of a press conference held by the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK with home and foreign reporters on November 25 on the matter of signing the nuclear safeguards accord and a statement published there.

Given in the press are reports about the arrival of a women's delegation of the North side in Seoul through Panmunjom to attend the second seminar "On Peace of Asia and the Role of Women", about a dinner arranged by the South side's Executive Committee for the North side's women's delegation and the Japanese women's delegation and about the opening session of the seminar.

The seventh Kanto District seminar on the chuche idea was held in Japan, says NODONG SINMUN.

The press conveys world public voices strongly demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea and the return of old man Yi In-mo to the northern half of Korea.

NODONG SINMUN in a commentary denounces the No Tae-u group for distributing even a book branding as "mobs" the students ardently longing for independence, democracy and reunification.

South Korean news of the press includes reports that some 1,500 citizens and students affiliated with more than 20 dissident organisations including the National Federation of Peasants Associations and the National Council of Student Representatives strongly urged the United States and the puppet authorities to withdraw the pressure for rice market opening and totally scrap the "wartime support agreement".

An article of NODONG SINMUN exposes the aggressive nature of the "wartime support agreement" signed between the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets.

MINJU CHOSON comments on the fact that the U.S. imperialists have deployed tactical nuclear weapons in the South side's areas near the Military Demarcation Line in secrecy from before 1961.

It is reported in the press that Comrade Fidel Castro declared Cuba is fighting without losing heart even in the imperialist blockade, video materials of "Selected Works of Mao Zedong" were made in China, new communist parties have made their appearance in the Soviet Union and the seventh ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 closed.

NODONG SINMUN deals with achievements of Cuba in socialist construction.

In an article titled "U.S. Forces and Nuclear Weapons Must Be Withdrawn Without Delay", the daily says that there is no reason and ground for the U.S. imperialists to keep their troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea.

KCNA Reviews 27 Nov NODONG SINMUN

SK2711054791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang November 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today reports that immortal classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song were studied and disseminated in various countries.

An article of the daily says that after the liberation of the country, President Kim Il-song set forth the policy of democratic reforms and wisely organised and led the popular masses to its implementation.

Works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were studied and disseminated in different countries, according to the daily.

Conveyed in the daily are world public voices highly praising Comrade Kim Chong-il as the genius of ideas and theories who brightly indicates the road ahead of the popular masses in the age of independence.

Econews of the daily includes reports about the construction of apartment houses for 50,000 families in the capital which is progressing at the final stage and about the brisk carpeting of paddy fields with humus soil at rural communities across the country.

The daily comes out with an editorial calling for intensifying educational work to increase the revolutionary spirit and an article explaining that a high degree of revolutionary zeal is the motive force of heroic exploits.

It is reported in the daily that Comrade Jiang Zemin met with the delegation of MINJU CHOSON on a visit to China and the State Education Commission of China contributed educational apparatuses, materials and books to the Huang Jiguang Senior Middle School in Kosong County, Kangwon Province.

Carried in the daily are an account of the first-day session of the second seminar on "Peace of Asia and the Role of Women", a report that the delegate of the North side delivered a keynote report under the subject "Reunification and Woman" at the seminar, a memorial address made by head of the North side's delegation Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairwoman of the Supreme People's Assembly, at the grave of her father, news that the women's delegation of the North side met with "national assemblymen" of South Korea and South Korean newspaper reports about the activities of the North side's women's delegation.

In commentaries, the daily denounces the South Korean authorities for dampening the intention of the North side's women's delegation to pay consolatory visits to the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, woman student Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North and for letting newspapers carry unsavory articles on "Development of Nuclear Weapons" and the like after they allowed the visit of the North side's women's delegation to Seoul.

Appearing in the daily is a statement made public by the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland on November 26 denouncing the United States and the South Korean authorities' war confab at the "Annual Security Consultative Meeting" in Seoul.

Radio Moscow broadcast its analyst's article on the results of this "meeting", according to the daily.

It is reported in the daily that the fourth contact between delegates to the fifth North-South high-level talks was held and the South Korean puppets committed a military provocation by infiltrating a group of combatant ships into the territorial waters off the west coast of the North side.

The daily conveys world public voices demanding the implementation of the resolution of the 30th U.N. General Assembly on the Korean question and a simultaneous nuclear inspection of the North and the South.

The daily reports that Comrade Jiang Zemin toured Anhui Province, the prime minister of Bangladesh called upon all parties to strengthen cooperation and the homeland party of Afghanistan expressed hope to solve the Afghan issue through negotiation.

It informs the readers of the recent situation in the Soviet Union.

It observes the first anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Antigua and Barbuda.

It introduces Vietnam, Laos, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and India which are striving to build a prosperous new Asia.

Developing countries are calling for establishing a new international economic order, and an agreement was reached on the creation of a European economic zone, reports the daily.

South Korea

Conflicting U.S. Approaches to Inspection Viewed

SK2711044691 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 24 Nov 91 p 2

[Editorial: "Reasonable Approach for North, South Nuclear Inspection Should Be Seriously Considered"]

[Text] We note some rational and reasonable aspects in the efforts of the U.S. and the ROK Governments for resolving the issue of North Korean nuclear inspection. We, however, note in these efforts some aspects which seem to be very unreasonable, temperamental, and dangerous. These conflicting approaches in dealing with the issue of nuclear inspection on North Korea stem essentially from U.S. "power diplomacy." We, however, are reluctant to use the term "a simultaneous use of hardline and moderate tactics," as it is often described in diplomatic terms, for as far as this issue is concerned, this two-pronged approach the United States is employing in dealing with the issue is deeply connected with national consciousness and national pride.

The recent moves concerning the issue of nuclear inspection in North Korea give us an impression that a basic direction for resolving the issue is in the making. North Korea has made its fundamental position on this issue known through various channels over several days. For instance, Choe U-chin, deputy director of the Disarmament and Peace Institute under the North Korean foreign ministry, in a press conference in Washington on 19 November said, "North Korea will accept nuclear inspection if the U.S. nuclear weapons are completely withdrawn from South Korea and the North and the South agree on a simultaneous nuclear inspection." Particularly noteworthy is his confirmation that "North Korea has never put forward additional conditions in connection with nuclear inspection, such as the abandonment of the nuclear umbrella for South Korea and the withdrawal of U.S. troops." Now the North Korean demand is confined to the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from South Korea and simultaneous North, South nuclear inspection. This North Korea position was confirmed once again by William Taylor, deputy director of the U.S. Institute for Strategic Studies, who recently visited Pyongyang. During his one-week visit to North Korea which began 12 November, he visited Kim Hyong-u, deputy director of the International Department of North Korea's Workers Party of Korea, and Kim Yong-chol, vice minister of the People's Armed Forces, for nine and a half hours. The North Korean officials are reported to have repeatedly explained North Korea's position. They are reported to have asked him to pass on to the ROK and U.S. Governments the North Korean view that "North Korea is ready to accept international nuclear inspection as soon as the U.S. forces in South Korea accept nuclear inspection." The encouraging sign is that the United States is showing a change in its attitude to the effect that it is "reviewing the possibility of nuclear inspection of U.S. forces in South Korea" in line with North Korea's fundamental position. This clarification of the North Korean position and the positive change in the U.S. attitude will be of great help in resolving the tension caused by the issue. These efforts to resolve the issue may ultimately contribute considerably to the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and, further, to the establishment of a nuclear-free peace zone. The changes in the Pyongyang and Washington positions during these several days should be taken as rational and reasonable.

While this encouraging development is made, a very temperamental and irrational way to resolve the issue is also being discussed. In a hearing on the "North Korean nuclear issue" held by the House Asia-Pacific Subcommittee on 21 November, a declaration in favor of attacking North Korea was put forward. Richard Perle, former U.S. assistant secretary of defense, said that "nuclear inspection cannot prevent North Korea from developing nuclear weapons," and stated that "using the force of arms is the only effective option." Of course, others testifying in the hearing put forth moderate statements, but we are surprised by the fact that this dangerous thought of risking war was openly expressed in the U.S. Congress. This may reflect a tactical aspect of the U.S. diplomacy employing both the hardline and moderate measures, but a remark of this nature and the threatening international political atmosphere created by such a remark may hurt North Korea's self-respect, thereby worsening the situation. The use of force on their fellow countrymen could also hurt the national pride of the people of the South. The issue of nuclear inspection on North Korea should be resolved based on reason and common sense. For this, the United States should refrain from making remarks which hurt the self-respect of the Korean nation. In this light, our government's policy of blindly following the U.S. policy without regard to national self-respect should be severely criticized.

North 'Forced' U.S. Troops To Remain in South

SK2711085891 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 23 Nov 91 p 3

[Editorial: "North Korea Forces U.S. Troops Stationed in the South To Stay"]

[Text] The major accomplishment of the 23d annual ROK-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting [SCM], which was concluded on 21 November after a joint statement was issued as in the past, is that the two countries have confirmed the existence of a mechanism that can effectively keep North Korea from being tempted to take military action. What we especially notice in the joint statement are paragraphs five and six. In paragraph five, the two countries' defense ministers have agreed that the U.S. Nunn-Warner phase II troop reductions would be postponed until the danger and uncertainties surrounding the North Korean nuclear program and the region's security have been thoroughly addressed.

In other words, this is the same as saying that North Korea has actually forced U.S. troops, which are supposed to leave South Korea, to stay. The Nunn-Warner plan for troop reductions is a revised five-year plan for reducing U.S. troops based on a treatise entitled "U.S.-ROK Security Relations," written by Karl Jackson, former deputy undersecretary of defense, in late 1988, and on Senator Karl Levine's "Report on U.S.-ROK-Japan Joint Visit to the Pacific Command" in 1989. The first phase of the plan has already been enacted. About 7,000 soldiers are expected to be withdrawn by next year according to the low-cost and high efficiency principle. In the second phase, U.S. troops stationed in Korea were expected to be withdrawn further by 1995 by turning the 2nd U.S. Army Division into a light infantry division or a powerful infantry brigade. In the third phase, only one division-sized body of troops was supposed to remain, along with U.S. Air Force troops and a few support units, according to a plan to change the role of U.S. troops.

North Korea's nuclear development, its mass production of long-range missiles, and its production and deployment of formidable chemical and biological weapons have arrested the plan for the withdrawal of U.S. troops at its second phase. We did not want to see such a result. If, even at this moment, North Korea turns its excessive offensive posture into a defensive posture and cooperates with us in President No Tae-u's denuclearization declaration made public last 8 November, a bright future for the U.S. troop reductions and the building of peace will be guaranteed.

We also find paragraph six of the joint statement noteworthy. It states: The two countries share the view that the present armistice regime should remain valid until superseded by an enduring peace mechanism and that substantive progress in arms control on the Korean peninsula is necessary. When the fifth round of the South- North prime ministerial talks is held in Seoul on 10 December, our side should make the North Korean side clearly understand our position.

North Korea's strategy of communizing the South through a revolution remains unchanged, and it has not stopped stockpiling weapons, such as chemical and biological weapons and Scud missiles, needed in blitzkrieg warfare to execute such a strategy.

In spite of all this, North Korea is scheming to realize its proposal for a "nonaggression declaration," a ruse clearly intended to have U.S. troops stationed in South Korea withdrawn on the basis of being outside forces. North Korea will do this by capitalizing on national sentiment and then consummate its "revolution" by creating confusion in the South and driving it toward civil war. For this reason, if and when the South and North agree on the nonaggression declaration between them, the existing armistice regime will become meaningless.

We believe, therefore, that it is realistic and sensible for the ROK and the United States to have agreed that the present armistice regime should remain unless superseded by an enduring peace mechanism. In this way North Korea will be brought around to abandoning its nuclear development project and cooperating with the South in arms control aimed at fashioning a peace mechanism.

Upon seeing the SCM's conclusion, we feel that something is lacking in the joint statement. It is that the United States should more actively help our country develop its munitions industry, although this was briefly mentioned in the joint statement. In the future, the United States should be persuaded to help Korea develop its munitions industry as much as it has done to help Japan develop its defense industries.

Response to North Nuclear Proposal Delayed

SK2711091091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0850 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 27 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea, due to differences in opinion among officials, delayed making an official response to North Korea's newest nuclear proposal Wednesday but said it contained notable shifts in attitude.

North Korea's statement Monday did not propose anything new and attached unrelated conditions to its signing of a nuclear safeguards accord, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

"We do note that the statement suggests possibility of North Korea's attitudinal changes," the Ministry said.

"Review and negotiations are under way within the government on the statement and an official position will be announced as soon as it is determined," it said.

A four-point proposal announced by the North Korean Foreign Ministry said Pyongyang would sign a nuclear safeguards accord when the United States began to withdraw its nuclear weapons from the South.

It called for simultaneous inspection of nuclear facilities in North Korea and a search for nuclear weapons in South Korea; Pyongyang-Washington negotiations on this simultaneous inspection and removal of the nuclear threat against North Korea; and Pyongyang-Seoul talks on making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone.

The Ministry delayed issuing an official statement after a hastily arranged working-level meeting of government officials.

Ministry sources said the delay was caused by disagreement on how to respond to North Korea's call for simultaneous inspection.

It would take "a few more days" before the government could produce a final statement, one source said.

Ministry Denies North's Claim of Naval Intrusion

SK2711104491 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1000 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] The Defense Ministry today denied North Korea's Korean Central News Agency [KCNA] report that an ROK Navy combat ship illegally intruded into North Korean territorial waters to abduct a North Korean fishing vessel. A Defense Ministry official said that the KCNA report that an ROK Navy combat ship yesterday intruded into the North side's territorial waters in the West Sea southwest of Ongjin Peninsula, committing a military provocation, is a completely groundless false report.

The Defense Ministry said that the North Korean side has been claiming for days in succession that the ROK is bringing tanks and artillery into the Demilitarized Zone threatening North Korea, and that the North Korean claim seems to be a tactic aimed at escaping from international nuclear inspection.

GATT Negotiating Group Draft Paper Opposed

SK2711100791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0855 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 27 (YONHAP)—The Uruguay Round agricultural negotiating group examined the working paper drafted by Arthur Dunkel, director of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT), and failed to reach agreement Tuesday in Geneva.

At the meeting, the United States and Cairns Group countries said the Dunkel paper, which calls for "tariffication of farm products without exception," should be the basis for future negotiations but the other countries responded coolly, an official at the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Ministry said Wednesday based on a report he had received from the Korean delegation in Geneva.

Ten nations, including Korea, Japan and Canada, expressed strong opposition and said they would not accept comprehensive tariffication of farm products.

Korean Ambassador Pak Su-kil told the meeting that the paper reflected the positions of advanced farm exporting nations too much and excessively stressed the market opening issue.

It failed to maintain a balance between domestic support, market opening and export subsidies, he argued.

The working paper was presented to a meeting of the eight major countries Nov. 21 but was strongly opposed by Japan, Canada and Finland, and the chances have now lessened that it will be adopted as a draft for negotiation.

Conflicts Arise at Women's Seminar on Peace

SK2711033991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0157 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 27 (YONHAP)—Icy glares and harsh words replaced warm greetings and smiles Tuesday at a seminar here to discuss peace in Asia and the role of women.

Things turned nasty when North Korean speaker Chong Myong-sun, a counselor at the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, told the audience that pressure on North Korea to accept international nuclear inspection and the South Korea-U.S. "Team Spirit" military exercise were threats to peace on the Korean peninsula.

The causes and methods of division in Germany and Korea were different, Chong said, expressing her fear of German-style unification through absorption.

Prof. Yi Kyong-suk of Sungmyong Women's University responded from the floor by saying that women in the South and North should take the lead in restoring Korea's homogeneity and achieving peaceful reunification, and criticizing North Korea's unification formula of a "Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo" as unrealistic.

"A confederal system has never been realized between two regimes that differ in ideology and system," Yi said.

Chong answered the attack from the podium by saying Yi's view regarding unification was not her own but that of the government of South Korea, whose formula is based on a Korean national community.

South Korea's formula, which stipulates an intermediate stage, recognized two states, Chong said.

Yi's idea of unification based on independence, peace and democracy would mean unification through general elections, and that was practically impossible, she said.

Yi, refusing to sit down, said the structure of division had created deep scars and a deep chasm of consciousness between the two sides, making it difficult to unite, and Korean women should establish a forum for dialogue to restore homogeneity.

As it seemed the bitter give and take would never end, a third participant rebuked the two women for acting like government spokesmen and appealed for both sides to make an effort to take a small step toward unification by transcending differences of politics and ideology.

A delegation of women from Japan is also taking part in the two- day seminar, the first ever in South Korea attended by both Koreas.

Role of Japan Cited

SK2711040491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0243 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 27 (YONHAP)—Japan should not pursue military expansionism by dispatching its Self-Defense Forces abroad, but should contribute to forming an environment conducive to the reunification of South and North Korea, a Japanese lawmaker said here Wednesday.

Japan should apologize for subjecting its Asian neighbors to colonial rule at the beginning of the century and deal with the issue of compensation with a sense of responsibility, Sumiko Shimizu, a member of the House of Councilors and chairman of the Japan Women's Association, told the second-day session of a regional seminar on peace in Asia and women's role.

The two-day seminar closing Wednesday was attended by some 250 women from South and North Korea and Japan. It is the first seminar in Korea attended by women from both sides of the divided peninsula.

Shimizu said Japanese women should make efforts for the early normalization of relations between Japan and North Korea to keep their government from violating its three-pronged nuclear policy: non-manufacture, non-possession and non-deployment of nuclear arms.

Japanese women should also strive to solve poverty, inequality and problems relating to health, the environment, human rights and democracy in Asia, she said.

Conference organizers Tuesday cancelled a trip by the North Korean women to Ewha Womans University Wednesday for "security reasons" after the Home Ministry told them that they could not guarantee the safety of the visitors due to a student rally.

The students said the rally was to welcome the northern guests.

The North Korean participants said they would like to visit the campus as chief delegate Yo Yon-ku attended the school for a while before she went to the North.

They cancelled a tour of Namdaemun open market and the Lotte department store on Tuesday and asked the southern organizers to let them instead meet the families of the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and Yim Su- kyong, in prison for visiting the North without government permission.

Conference participants were to attend a meeting with South Korean women leaders Wednesday evening.

Rumors of Possible Cabinet Reshuffle Continue

SK2711012391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Nov 91 p 2

[From the "Out and About" Column]

[Text] Rumors regarding a cabinet reshuffle abound as the parliamentary elections approach.

"My impression is that there will be a cabinet shake-up by the year-end," one presidential aide said yesterday. He added, however, that he has not yet received any word from President No Tae-u.

Some other Chongwadae officials also expressed similar views. "Judging from various circumstances, we can assume that there will be a change in the cabinet line-up," an official said.

He predicted that the reshuffle would also likely affect some presidential aides.

One of the needs for change, he observed, arises from the anticipated running for the next parliamentary elections by some cabinet ministers and presidential secretaries.

The parliamentary elections are expected in March 1992, and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party is said to be planning to start nominating candidates from late next month.

There have been conflicting reports on when the reshuffle will be carried out. One report said it could come as early as next week following Dec. 2, the legal deadline for the passage of next year's government budget bill by the National Assembly. Another predicted that it would come after the current parliamentary session closes Dec. 12.

The Chongwadae officials described the reports as "sheer speculation."

Regarding the scope, the officials said it would be related to the "political structure" President No has in mind for the remainder of his term of office. No's single five-year tenure will expire Feb. 25, 1993.

"The new cabinet should be one that will help minimize the so- called leakage of power during the president's remaining term of office," one official said.

The likely cabinet reshuffle has touched off great speculation on who will be replaced and who will be newly appointed.

Political observers appeared to agree that Prime Minister Chong Won-sik would retain his post. They said Chong can be considered to have done a relatively good job since his inauguration last December.

Deputy Prime Minister-Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu, on the other hand, is being referred to as a probable candidate for replacement. Currently a legislator, the deputy prime minister is expected to run again in the next parliamentary elections.

Observers predicted that some other economic ministers would also likely be replaced.

If Choe is replaced, Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for economic affairs, may be tapped as the successor, according to the observers.

Farmers, Students Protest Opening Rice Market

SK2611153791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0902 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 26 (YONHAP)—About 18,000 farmers, students and dissidents demanded Tuesday that the government not allow foreign rice into Korea and that the United States stop pressing Korea to open its rice market.

They called for President No Tae-u to say he opposes rice imports and for the United States to abolish the "Super" 301 section of the 1974 Trade Act and stop pressing Korea to open its farm market.

They threatened to campaign against the government in next year's general and presidential elections and to boycott American products unless their demands were met immediately.

Following the two-hour rally at Changchungdan Park, thousands of the participants marched peacefully about two kilometers into downtown Seoul, carrying anti-government and anti-U.S. placards.

Farmers have held several rallies in recent months urging the government not allow imports of the staple grain on the ground it would endanger their livelihood.

Ruling Party Forces Through Controversial Bills

SK2711022491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0134 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 27 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) railroaded 22 controversial law bills, including one on the much-disputed development of Cheju Island, through the National Assembly late Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning, throwing a cold blanket on inter-party cooperation.

DLP lawmakers, who hold 215 of the 299 assembly seats, met in room 145 of the National Assembly at 3:45 a.m. Wednesday and passed without debate a government motion to purchase 8.5 million som (one som equals 144 kilograms) of rice at prices 7 percent higher than last year.

Opposition parties and farmers vehemently opposed the motion on the ground that the hike was too small considering inflation and did not cover the growers' costs.

Lawmakers of the major opposition Democratic Party (DP) began a sit-in at the assembly shortly after the passage, branding the DLP action "violence denying parliamentarianism" and declaring it illegal.

DP lawmakers were to discuss counteractions Wednesday.

DLP Rep. O Han-ku, chairman of the Assembly Home Affairs Committee, called a committee meeting in a small conference room shortly before midnight Tuesday. Three bills were passed despite attempts by DP lawmakers to force O's mouth to shut so he couldn't declare their passage and adjourn the committee meeting.

One bill sets up an organization to promote "rightful" living, and the other two were revision bills—one on local finance and the other on local autonomy.

Opposition parties objected to legislation of a movement for "rightful" living, alleging it was just the social purification commission under a new name and would be used by the government and its party in next year's elections.

At around 11:35 p.m. Tuesday, DLP Rep. Kim Yong-ku, chairman of the Assembly Finance Committee, called an unscheduled meeting of the committee and passed six bills and nine motions without discussion while opposition committee members protested loudly.

On Tuesday afternoon, DLP Rep. Kim Yong-chae, chairman of the Assembly Construction Committee, put a special law bill on Cheju development and two other bills through the committee in two minutes while DP lawmakers were absent.

At least one Cheju resident committed suicide and rallies and demonstrations have been held on the southernmost island and in other parts of the country to stop the government from developing the island into tourist attractions.

Opposition lawmakers and Cheju residents say the government's plan would only fan real estate speculation by outsiders and any profits from the development would go into their pockets. More than 70 percent of land on Cheju is owned by non-islanders.

The economy-science committee was convened at 10 p.m. Tuesday, but quickly adjourned due to tense confrontation between members from the rival parties. Chairman DP Rep. Sin Sun-pom announced it would convene again at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

DLP floor leader Rep. Kim Chong-ho said his party would pass other pending bills by wednesday. Kim's DP counterpart, Rep. Kim Chong-kil, said the bills passed tuesday night were fundamentally null and void.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Lumut Dockyard Prepares for Use by U.S. Fleet

BK2611091691 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Nov 91 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sun.—The U.S. Pacific fleet is likely to become the first foreign customer for the newly-corporatised Lumut Dockyard.

In anticipation of a deal with the U.S., the Naval Dockyard Sdn. Bhd. [Private Limited] plans to deepen the waters off Lumut to accommodate large American navy ships for repairs and maintenance facilities.

The [Malaysian] $650 million Naval Dockyard, a former Royal Malaysian Navy facility, was corporatised in September.

Chairman Datuk Nasruddin Bahari told the NEW STRAITS TIMES today: "We have the capacity to undertake repairs, refitting, and other maintenance works to cater to the needs of American warships."

He said the move to deepen the Lumut waters was to enable the dockyard to work on naval vessels bigger than landing ship tanks (LSTs).

U.S. interest in acquiring services at the Lumut Dockyard was voiced by its Pacific Command commander-in-chief Admiral Charles Larson during his two-day visit to Malaysia late last month.

Admiral Larson had said that Lumut was preferable to Singapore as the former had a "more flexible schedule" and was not as busy as the republic's.

He added that the only limiting factor was the shallow waters at the dockyard, which may not allow the U.S. to send warships bigger than LSTs for repairs and maintenance.

Datuk Nasruddin said the dockyard was awaiting reply from the U.S. Pacific Command and the U.S. ambassador to Malaysia, Mr. Paul Cleveland, who is also involved in discussions, on Malaysia's offer.

"We will let the U.S. decide whether they prefer the services to be offered on a tender or per ship basis," said Datuk Nasruddin, who is also the Defence Ministry secretary general.

Last month, Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak had said that Filipinos, who had worked on American warships in the U.S. naval base in Subic Bay, might be recruited to work at the Lumut Dockyard.

U.S. Firm To Supply 4 Maritime Patrol Aircraft

BK2611092391 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Nov 91 p 7

[By Juhaidi Yean Abdullah]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sun—The Defence Ministry has selected a renowned American aircraft manufacturer to supply four maritime patrol aircraft for the Royal Malaysian Air Force [RMAF], its Minister, Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said today.

He said negotiations with the company, Beechcraft, a member of the Raytheon group of companies, for the purchase of the aircraft was nearing completion.

Datuk Sri Najib told the NEW STRAITS TIMES today: "Although the aircraft model has been determined, there are still discussions to be carried out on the type of navigation and maritime surveillance radars and sensors to be fitted to it.

"However, the equipment to be fitted to the aircraft will come in a separate package."

Under the Ministry's Sixth Malaysia Plan, the Government had approved an allocation of [Malaysian] $100 million for the procurement of the four aircraft.

With their purchase, the existing two Hercules C-130s which constitute RMAF's maritime surveillance fleet, would be converted to assume normal transport role which includes ferrying logistics and paratroopers.

The C-130 aircraft, popularly known as Charlie, would also be immediately available to augment the Rapid Deployment Force which is being established by the Malaysian Armed Forces.

RMAF sources said the new maritime patrol aircraft is the B200T model, which is the maritime patrol version of Beechcraft's Super King Air 200 twin-turboprop light transport plane.

The standard B200T aircraft is equipped with a search radar with a 360-degree scan, avionics which provide ground stabilisation, and strengthened landing gear to cater for higher take-off and landing weights.

Other equipment includes sonobuoys and processor, multi-spectral scanner and tactical navigation computers.

The aircraft is suitable for missions such as surface and sub-surface monitoring of the country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), detecting pollution, inspection of offshore installations and conducting search-and-rescue (SAR) flights.

Special missions for which it can be used include aerial photography, environmental and ecological research, airways and ground-based navigation equipment checks, target towing and ambulance duties.

It has a patrol speed of 140 knots (259km/h) but the maximum cruising speed is 265 knots (491km/h).

This Beechcraft model is presently in service with Japan's Maritime Safety Agency and the armed forces of Algeria, Australia, Chile, Peru, and Uruguay.

Article Examines U.S. Opposition to EAEC

Seeks 'Containment' of Japan

BK2411104891 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Nov 91 p 10

[First part of a two-part article by a "special writer": "The United States and the EAEC"]

[Text] For those who wonder why the Americans are so against the East Asia Economic Group (EAEG), now known as the East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC), Steven Schlossstein's book *Asia's New Little Dragons* should make understanding the attitude easy.

Basically it is the old idea of containment, an idea and a strategy which were used against the Soviet Union and China. Only now it is directed against Japan.

Even a cursory analysis would show that containment of Japan is not entirely due to its potential as an economic power but there is an element of racism involved.

The Western nations are fond of accusing the non-whites of being guilty of racism. Malaysia with its Bumiputera [indigenous people] policy has been one of the favourite targets. But the Caucasians (i.e. Europeans or whites) are still largely racist although they are more skilful in concealing it now. Currently, they are engaged in a loud campaign against racism, demanding that aid and trade be conditional upon non-racist practices as defined by them.

The very fact that they, the Europeans, consider themselves the sole arbiter of international standards of behaviour exposes their firm belief that they are a superior race whose standards must be considered as universal and may not be disputed.

On the other hand, in their desire to avoid being accused of racism and to prove that they are true believers, the non-Caucasians never question the behaviour of the Caucasians. One sure way for a thief to deflect attention from himself is to shout "Thief, thief". And so we see the Europeans, whether in Europe, America or the Asian region, busy accusing everybody else of racism.

Such is their success that anyone who draws attention to Western racism would be considered a heretic who has done the unthinkable. And so once again the West has outmanoeuvred the rest of world.

But the eminently readable book by Mr Schlossstein, an ex-Morgan Guaranty Trust Company vice-president, gives the lie to this. The title is misleading.

Mr Schlossstein is not interested in what he calls the "Little Dragons", i.e. Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia. Although he displays his disdain of the potentials of these Southeast Asian countries, Malaysia in particular, it is Japan that is his main target. Thus, in assessing the implications of the emergence of the "Little Dragons", he quoted Paul Maidment's article "The Yen Block: Together Under the Sun" which appeared in the Economist.

"The goal (of Japan) would be to integrate the economies of the (old) NICs [Newly Industrialized Countries] (i.e. South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore) and new NICs (Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia) into something that would look a lot like a greater Japan Inc. Its core would be Japan. Industrial policy would be coordinated from Tokyo. It would be done by something called the 'Asian Brain', (which) would control the disposition of industrial investment throughout Japan and the region and coordinate the necessary policy support by the Governments of these countries. The (cortex of the) 'Asian Brain' is clearly intended to be the Japanese civil service, just as MITI [Ministry of International Trade and Industry] was the brain behind the Japan Inc. in the 1960s.

Clearly this piece by Mr Maidment assumes that the other countries of East and Southeast Asia are brainless or at least without the "cortical" capacity to think. Mr Schlossstein himself refers to Malaysians (i.e. the Malays—to whom he appears to have a visceral dislike) as "Oxymoron". The possibility that these countries are acting on their own and wanting only to achieve the same success as Japan and to become more developed is apparently never considered.

Again there are elements of racist thinking which assumes the superiority of the West in terms of analysis and morality judgment. The idea that others can also think is not even regarded as possible, much less of national planning and national ambition.

Mr Schlossstein wistfully recalls that 25 years ago America was the model. "Its schools were studied for scholastic achievement, its traditional two-parent family was the symbol of stability, and New York was the commercial and financial epicentre of the world."

Today Mr Schlossstein points out, Japan is the model. In 1980 America's trade across the Pacific about equalled its trade across the Atlantic. But by 1988 U.S., trade with East Asia was 50 percent higher than that of Europe. By the end of this century, Mr Schlossstein predicts that America's trade with Asia-Pacific will double than that of the European Community, and the Asia-Pacific region will have a combined GNP of some US$6.5 trillion ($17.5 trillion) and will be growing faster compared to US$7.2 trillion for North America (U.S. and Canada) and US$6 trillion for a unified Europe.

The largest economies of East Asia now account for 24 percent of the world's GNP. What is worse in Mr Schlossstein's view is that the Asia-pacific countries are more interdependent i.e. less dependent on America. Intra-East Asian regional trade expanded to two-thirds by 1987. And one-third of U.S. trade is now dependent on the Asia-pacific region, while in terms of total U.S. trade deficit, the East Asian region accounts for 80 percent.

Mr Schlossstein emphasises that "this regional dynamism is also helping to wean these economies away from their dependence on the United States".

The implication is of course that the kind of economic arm-twisting which is a major weapon of U.S. foreign policy presently would not be possible very soon. For a nation that considers itself the sole earthly power and the arbiter of world behaviour, this loss of capacity to coerce is clearly unacceptable.

The EAEC is seen by the Americans as the formalisation of the grouping of East and Southeast Asian countries under Japanese leadership. The U.S. had not objected to, and indeed had enthusiastically welcomed any Pacific grouping in which it is involved and in which it could play a dominant role.

But a grouping of dynamic East Asian countries with Japan in the lead must diminish the power of the U.S. and must be prevented at all cost.

Having referred to the various U.S. approved Asian-pacific organisations such as the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC), the Pacific Economic Co-operation Conference (PECC) and the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) proposed by Australia, all of which exclude China, Vietnam and the USSR (on grounds of not having an open economy, but with which everyone is happy to trade but unhappy to be seen with), Mr Schlossstein then draws attention to "Malaysia's paranoid Prime Minister, Mahathir Mohamad's" proposal for the Asean six plus Vietnam, Burma, Taiwan, Hong Kong and South Korea grouping.

Where Mr Schlossstein got his information that Japan and China were excluded is something of a mystery, unless it was meant to cause suspicion and antagonism on the part of these two countries to the idea.

Mr Schlossstein reflects the current American view why this grouping cannot succeed. Since it is not going to succeed anyway, America could afford to let it go its moribund way. But apparently the U.S. is not so sanguine and prefers to preempt the failure of the EAEC.

It is well-known that the lukewarm support of some East Asian countries to the EAEC proposal is American-inspired. Indeed Dan Quayle, the U.S. Vice-President openly congratulated some Asean countries allegedly for not supporting the EAEC proposal. Mr Quayle went further and declared that there should be no grouping in the Pacific Rim which does not include the mighty U.S.

Secretary of State, James Baker, outdid Mr Quayle by unequivocally demanding that Japan and South Korea reject the EAEC. There is no attempt to hide U.S. arm-twisting. Indeed, South Korea is told that it owes a blood debt to the U.S. and not to Malaysia.

The distaste for Japanese cannot be understood except on the basis of them not being European. In the last war the Germans were responsible for the much-publicised holocaust, where six million Jews were gassed or liquidated in other ways.

Japan committed its share of atrocities but the atom bombs killed hundreds of thousands of Japanese in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Women and children were not spared. Some died a lingering death no less horrible than the torture of prisoners by Germans.

But whereas the attitude towards the Germans is one of reconciliation and understanding; whereas the German reunification is welcomed; whereas Germany's role as the bastion of European economic unity is accepted, there is a completely different attitude towards the resurgence of Japan and its place in Asia.

It would seem that at all cost Japan must be stopped. That Japan might bring prosperity to Asian countries is resented. Japan's transfer of technology to Asian countries is regarded as dangerous. That Japan's efficiency has brought manufactured goods within the reach of the poor Asians and indeed the poor in the world is never appreciated. The only thing that could be seen is that the Western manufacturers are not able to compete with the Japanese.

Why Japan? Indeed, why is the possibility of East Asia prospering so repugnant to the Americans? They are clearly not against European prosperity. They are not against Germans becoming powerful and prosperous. Indeed, they are willing to help Eastern Europeans and even European Russians recover and prosper.

There is no talk of NICs or NIEs [Newly Industrialized Economies] emerging in Eastern Europe. Apparently there will not be an intermediate phase for Eastern European countries in the progress towards developed country status. Far from being obstructed, they are likely to be facilitated.

Why is the attitude towards Japan in East Asia different from the attitude towards Europeans and even Latin Americans? The only difference between these two groups is that one is largely Caucasian and the other is Asian. In other words, it is racism which is at the back of this attitude, indeed at the back of America's opposition to the EAEC.

This is a serious thing to say about America. It is also dangerous for America is the sole power in the world today. But it is important that Americans know that the world understands their thinking.

Not long ago it was easy to accuse Europeans and Americans of racism. Their colonies were all non-Europeans and they discriminate blatantly against blacks and coloureds in the colonies and in their countries. They were in no position to defend themselves.

But now they have turned the tables on their former accusers. On the basis of legislated non-discriminatory laws, they now claim to be free from the practice of racial discrimination. Now it is their turn to accuse the non-whties of racial discrimination and other misdemeanours.

The people who once preached Christian charity while exploiting the very people they converted are now busy preaching good morals to the rest of the world. New mores are being invented and immediately spread to the far corners of the world. Woe betide those countries not in the American or European group which fial to measure up to these new standards.

Beside assessing racism in other countries, other standards of behaviour are also examined. Among them are human rights records, freedom of the Press, workers' rights, the right of jungle tribes, extraction of tropical timber (temperate climate timber may be extracted with impunity), environmental degradation, free speech, the rule of law, the so-called universal values, violation of intellectual property rights and a host of others.

America puts the non-Europeans under a microscope and finds none of them measure up to the standards of behaviour determined by them. With the might of their market place and the influence they wield, the Americans and the Europeans have become the arbiters of good behaviour.

And so the rest of the world is forced to be on the defensive. Fearing punishment, these people dare not point out that the arbitters of correct behaviour are themselves guilty of incorrect behaviour.

Another dictum of the West is that you do not criticise judges if you want to avoid being in contempt of court. And so no one may accuse the arbiters of misdemeanor for fear of being punished. In any case, the arbiters are too powerful and nothing can be done to them if found guilty.

To accuse the Americans of being racist is therefore to take a grave risk besides being guilty of improper behaviour. But the fact remains that there is no other explanation for the visceral hatred of Japan and the opposition to the development of East and Southeast Asia.

Mr Schlossstein's book typifies the kind of racial prejudice current in America. In his opinion all the three Southeast Asian countries are corrupt, undemocratic, racist and incapable of good governance. He doubts that they can make it into the league of the "Dragons of East Asia". He highlights their weaknesses and their inferiority.

But he doubts the validity of his own analysis and is pathologically fearul that with the help of Japan they might just make it. Worse still, he fears that with Japan leading and providing the know-how, the finance and the networking, the East Asians along with the Southeast Asian are going to become as prosperous or more prosperous than the Americans or the Europeans.

In the introduction to his book, Mr Schlossstein quotes Nicholas Valery's article Japanese Technology: Thinking Ahead, in the Economist.

"The copycat days are over. Japan is well on the way to become not just self-sufficient in technology, but a big exporter of know-how as well. Its engineering laboratories are brimming with ideas that have been cultivated entirely at home. Japanese firms now have a virtual stranglehold on technologies for making cars, cameras, semi-conductor memory chips, video equipment, fibre optics, machine tools, industrial robots, flexible manufacuring systems, quality steel and composite materials. Japanese firms are responsible for almost half of the patents being filed around the world. All this, and they are only just getting into their stride."

"In the process Japanese industry is being remade. Since 1986 Japan's economic growth has come exclusively from domestic demand; net exports have (declined as) imports have risen on the back of a soaring yen. Japanese firms hastened the process along by exporting their know-how to subcontractors in South Korea, Thailand and Taiwan, who then manufacture the goods for them and stick on Japanese labels.

"(This) new direction suggests a shift from the export of products to the export of software and services, centering on advanced technology." Apparently Japan which was damned for exporting too much, is now damned for increasing imports.

Rejection Based on Racism

BK2511145391 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Nov 91 p 10

[Second and last part of a two-part article by a "special writer": "Why Americans Are Going All-Out To Block the EAEC"]

[Text] Many attempts have been made to obstruct Japanese economic and technological advancement. The most infamous is the Plaza Accord where the Group of Seven decided that the yen be revalued upwards. Soon after the yen doubled its value against the dollar and other currencies.

The Japanese cost of production should logically double also and render their goods less competitive. But the only thing that happened was to make the Japanese more deficient as well as improve their quality. Their goods continue to flood the world markets and push out Euro-American products even in their own countries.

There were also a number of unanticipated results from the yen revaluation. Imports of raw material for Japanese industries cost half as much in yen, thus helping to reduce Japanese production cost. Additionally, the Japanese shifted their manufacturing to the Southeast Asian countries where production cost amounted to only a fraction of that in Japan. Only the most technologically sophisticated manufacturing is done in Japan. By resorting to robots and automated production lines, costs were further reduced. In the end the upward revaluation of the yen had no effect on cost of production at all.

On the other hand, the appreciation of the yen literally doubled the wealth of the Japanese. With this windfall they bought up huge chunks of real estates and industries in the West, until most of the symbols of Western economic dominance passed into Japanese hands.

The failure of fiscal methods to obstruct Japanese growth must trouble the minds of the Americans very much.

The ambitions of the NICs are not doubted. Mr Schlossstein points out that Japan together with Korea and Taiwan have accumulated nearly US$200 billion ($540 billion) in official foreign exchange reserves by 1988, around four times the US level and nearly half the world's total, and the same three countries accounted for about two-thirds of America's total global trade deficit. Mr Schlossstein is unable to overcome his fear of East Asian prosperity despite his arguments that they are incapable of achieving developed country status.

America may be able to threaten to close its market to goods from the three countries but to do so would involve depriving Americans of high-quality, reasonably-priced products which America is quite unable to produce and which would be costly if imported from Europe. The cost of living in America would actually go up i.e. living standards of the Americans would go down without imports from East Asia.

Although America's GDP is more domestically dependent, higher cost of living will only lead to higher cost of the few products that America exports. Competitiveness would be lost and foreign exchange earnings lowered.

To the Americans a standard of living lower than that of East Asians is clearly unacceptable.

America's present industrial strength is quite dependent on the production of arms. Huge Government orders for highly sophisticated and extremely costly modern weapons systems have supported research, development and production of not only weapons but also non-military products.

Although the United States accuses the Europeans of subsidising the production of the Airbus aircraft, they themselves subsidise Boeing, McDonnell Douglas and other commerical plane producers in the form of very high prices and large orders for military aircraft. The same technologies developed for military use are then modified for civilians use. If the research and design of avionics are to be done purely for civil use, the cost of America's passenger aircraft would be much higher. It would be impossible for American commerical aircraft to compete against the European Airbus without these indirect subsidies.

Now the US Government has decided to scale down very considerably the procurement of military hardware. This decision will result in many industries folding up, resulting in massive unemployment. If, added to this, is the shift of production facilities to Mexico and other Latin American countries, the unemployment situation will get worse.

During the Gulf War the US posed as a super power but although it had all the weapons it did not have the money to prosecute the war. It demanded that the world pay for the war. With large deficits in the US Budget this is inevitable. But if its military industrial capacity is reduced and it faces massive unemployment, the economy of the US would deteriorate to the point of making it a poverty stricken super power. Not only will it be unable to police this world, the unrest in the US would make it difficult even to police itself.

The stage may be reached when the market of the US shrinks and becomes less attractive to the rest of the world. Then the capacity of the US to invoke import restrictions as a means to threaten its own trading partners will actually be meaningless.

On the other hand, it is pointed out by Mr Schlossstein that intra-regional trade in East Asia is growing very rapidly. The best-kept secret, according to this discerning ex-Morgan Guaranty executive, is that "trade within the region now constitutes nearly half of its total (trade): intra-regional trade among the Little Dragons themselves exploded by almost 50 per cent in 1988".

Perhaps, Mr Schlossstein is being a little bit hysterical but America certainly has grounds to worry about losing its pre-eminent position in the Pacific region. Already the Philippines has decided to expel the US from military bases in that country. No alternative bases are being offered by the Asean countries. That American military presence is not so essential in the post Cold War period is irrelevent. There is the question of prestige.

With its economic clout gone and its military presence reduced, America, despite the elimination of the Soviet Union, is not going to be a real Pacific power. And this is unacceptable, especially as the perceived successor is not a European power but an Asian nation.

The opposition to the EAEC is not just due to the potential of the group as an economic power, but because the econoimic power is not European. There is therefore more than just a trace of racism in the stand of the US on the EAEC.

Now of course the US is going to say that the group itself is racist because it is confining itself to East Asia only. East Asia is a distinct geographical entity. But more than that, East Asians have a distinct set of cultures which are similar to each other but which differ completely from those of the Americans or Europeans or people of European descent. East Asians treat friends as friends and foes as foes. They are not given to the kind of abrasiveness exhibited by the Americans or others of European origin.

East Asians do not go about trying to impose their values on their neighbours or for that matter on others.

They respect each other's cultures and norms and the conduct of their own Government. They do not criticise the shortcomings of their neighbours, nor do they denigrate them through their media.

In other words, East Asians have more in common with each other than they have with Europeans or Americans.

If the Americans or the Europeans have a right to unite and strengthen their joint positions, then surely the East Asians too have a right at least to group together. To assume that European or American unity is not racist but Asian unity is racist, is to have double standards. Even Americans must admit that double standards are universally repugnant. Either you measure everyone by the same yardstick or you do not. There are no two ways about it.

The only explanation that is logical for the open rejection of the EAEC by the Americans is therefore racism.

Americans are well aware of this but resent any reference to this truth. The hint of American racism in Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohaned's speech at the UN is too much for the Americans. At the same time, they saw in this reference to possibel racism an opportunity to rationalise their rejection of the EAEC. They now say that the EAEC proposal has become an emotinal issue. It is no longer a rational proposition meant to keep international trade free. Anyone supporting it is guilty of racism.

Now the EAEC has become a hot potato that the Americans intended it to be. The possible key players will not want to be involved for fear of being accused of racism. In other words, by calling "thief", the Americans have been able to deflect attention from the real "thief". Altogether the strategy is neat and effective.

Mr Schlossstvein's book lay bare the true feelings of the Americans towards Japan, East Asia and nonwhites in general.

This book should be read by every Government official in the three Southeast Asian countries, namely Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Although he gives high marks for Indonesia, his description of Indonesian corruption, in particular the involvement of the President and his family, seems to belie the fondness and great hopes that he claims to entertain for that country.

He reserves his worst comments for Malaysia, peopled according to him by "Oxymorons". Apart from racism, his disgust for Malaysians is also caused by them being Muslims. Religion it seems should play no part in the economic development of a country.

The success of the NICs is said to be because they ignored religion. Similarly, Thailand and Indonesia have relegated religion to the background. But Malaysia is, according to Mr Schlossstein, peopled by Islamic fundamentalists. It must be a great surprise to Mr Schlossstein to have ever to consider Malaysia in the same light as Thailand and Indonesia. But even he is unable to ignore the economic achievements of Malaysia, although he dismisses the country as the "runt" of the brood, a term he no doubt chooses in order to insult the non-pork eating Muslims.

Mr Schlossstein's paranoia aside, the fear of the increasing prosperity of the East Asians among Americans is not without basis. The standard of living in America is actually going down. People are actually poorer and likely to get poorer still. One out of 10 Americans receives food stamps from the Government. A CNN [Cable News Network] report says that retail business is down, automobiles are not washed, clothing laundered less often and even the shoeshine boys are shining less shoes.

Most electronic products and domestic appliances are of Japanese make and despite all kinds of trades discrimination, American automobiles are not selling well and the well-known companies are not making profits. The great (Lee) Iacocca, credited with turning around Chrysler, only succeeded for a short while after receiving Government aid. Clearly if the Japanese are allowed unrestricted entry into the US market, there will be practically no American car.

The spectre of East Asia becoming like Japan with China providing unlimited cheap manpower must give the American Government nighmares. The boom in the southern provinces of China, which have been granted special status by their Government, is a fair indicator of the massive potential economic capacities of that country.

If Japan is allowed to lead the East Asian region through the EAEC, then the pre-eminent position of the US must eventually diminish. This modern-day "Yellow Peril" must haunt the American minds day and night. And so the East Asia Economic Caucus must be stopped at all cost.

Singapore

Exchange Program With Indonesian Army Begins

BK2611152591 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 26 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] The Singapore and Indonesian armies have started an exchange programme between their personnel to further strengthen the friendship between the two countries.

This was announced yesterday by Singapore's Chief of Army Major-General Ng Jui Ping. Speaking at the opening ceremony of Exercise Safkar Indopura 3/91, he referred to the programme as the start of a move to go beyond annual exercises to establish even stronger ties.

Maj-Gen Ng elaborated that this was a one-month exchange programme in which officers of intermediate rank, such as captain, visited and worked with each other.

He said the SAF [Singapore Armed Forces] had sent four officers this year and will send another four next year.

He also revealed that a visitation programme for senior officers will begin next year.

The Safkar Indopura 3/91 is the third such yearly bilateral land exercise. Ending on Thursday, it is a battalion map-planning exercise with no actual troop deployment in the field.

The 90 officers and men from the Indonesian Army (TNI-AD) and the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) are working together to prepare battle plans to tackle three problems, which include a battalion quick attack incorporating a Fighting in Built-up Area (Fibua) exercise at company-level.

Emphasising the importance of an exercise like the Safkar Indopura, Maj-Gen Ng said: "Bilateral military exercises are significant for many reasons. But most of all, they testify to the close friendship between the nations and their armed forces, to the common desire for peace and stability, and to mutual professional regard."

He added that the next few days of meeting and working together would not just lead to a better understanding of each other's military doctrines and procedures, but also a greater appreciation of the close relations between the two armies.

Yesterday's ceremony, held at the 6th Battalion, Singapore Infantry Regiment (6SIR), also saw the Singapore army chief handing the exercise torch over to Lieutenant-Colonel Tan Nga Kok, commander of the Third Singapore Infantry Brigade (3SIB) and director of the exercise.

Maj-Gen Ng also presented exercise caps to Lieutenant-Colonel Satria Buana, Commander of Indonesia's 501st Airborne Infantry Battalion, and Major Wong Fong Sing, Commanding Officer of the 5th Battalion, Singapore Infantry Regiment (5SIR).

Both are the participating units' contingent commanders. Unlike previous exercises where all the map-planning took place indoors, this year's participants will carry out their exercises at training areas such as Lim Chu Kang.

Lt-Col Jamari Chaniago, Indonesia's Chief of Staff, 18th Airborne Brigade and the deputy exercise director, said he viewed Safkar Indopura as "a vehicle to bring both army units closer together."

Indonesia's Army Chief of Staff, General Edi Sudrajat, will officiate at Thursday's closing ceremony at the Sarimbun Fibua Village in Lim Chu Kang.

Germany Signs Environmental Cooperation Accord

BK2611141091 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Singapore and Germany have signed a memorandum of understanding [MOU] on cooperation in environmental affairs. The objectives of the MOU include the sharing of information on research and development activities, policies, and environmental practices. Signing for Singapore was the environment minister, Dr. Ahmad Mattar, and for Germany, its minister for the environment, nature conservation, and nuclear safety, Professor Dr. Klaus Toepfer.

The agreement was reached during Dr. Mattar's official visit to Germany in September last year. This is Germany's first bilateral exchange of environmental technology with an Asian country.

Under the MOU, a Germany-Singapore environmental technology agency will be set up next year. The aim is to share the know-how with other countries in the region. Environmental experts [words indistinct] in February for a symposium on waste minimization.

Cambodia

Reportage on Reaction to Return of Khieu Samphan

Students Protest Return

BK2711085891 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0434 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 27 November (SPK)—Many thousands of students staged demonstrations in Phnom Penh's streets on Wednesday morning against the return of Khmer Rouge leaders to the capital city.

Khieu Samphan, the nominal chief of the Khmer Rouge, returns to Phnom Penh today in his capacity as a member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], 10 days after Son Sen, who was defense minister during Pol Pot's time and member of the SNC, which is headquartered in Phnom Penh according to the Paris accord.

The demonstrators brandished banners with Khieu Samphan's crossed portrait and shouted "Down with the Khmer Rouge."

Similar demonstrations were staged yesterday in Phnom Penh's main boulevards.

An unidentified official who stopped to see the demonstrations said: "Of course, we do not want the Khmer

Rouge's return. However, we have to accept this injustice if we want national reconciliation which allows Khmer Rouge leaders to be within the SNC."

During his recent visit to Cambodia, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas pointed out at a news conference that "it is better to include in a global political settlement the Khmer Rouge forces rather than keeping them apart and allowing them to nurture the attempt to resort to the past methods to impose their power."

Khieu Samphan Arrives 27 Nov

BK2711031891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0238 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 27 (AFP)—One of the Khmer Rouge's most reviled leaders, Khieu Samphan, returned to Cambodia's capital on Wednesday.

Thousands of people waving fists and screaming "Death to the Khmer Rouge," marched through the streets, at times blocking his car.

"I have very strong feelings about being back in my country," he said before jumping into his waiting limousine. "I want to stay for a long time."

Protesters Storm Residence

BK2711045291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0402 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 27 (AFP)—Hundreds of angry Cambodians stormed the residence of the Khmer Rouge here Wednesday soon after the arrival of faction leader Khieu Samphan, smashing windows and tearing down the gate.

"We will kill Khieu Samphan," the crowds screamed.

They had broken all windows and "there were no more gates," said a witness. They had started to pull down fences surrounding the building.

It was unclear whether Khieu Samphan, who had arrived earlier from Bangkok, was in the premises.

A police force of about 25 shouted through megaphones, "Brothers and sisters please stay quiet" as the estimated 1,000 people attacked the Khmer Rouge residence.

Using billyclubs, the outnumbered police tried to push the rioters back from the two-story corner house, but as fast as they were pulled away, the demonstrators returned, as there were no vehicles to turn them away.

"I hate Khieu Samphan. I hate him, I want to kill him. He killed the entire country. Our family, all our children died because of him," said Say Borum, a 33-year-old man taking part in the attack on the house.

He said his whole family had been killed during the 1975-1979 reign of terror by the radical Marxist group.

The demonstrators chipped away at the sidewalk, prying stones and throwing them at the house, breaking windows. They tried to climb over the fence, but police would pull them down.

Hun Sen Appeals to Demonstrators

BK2711121091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1109 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh SPK Nov. 27—Prime Minister Hun Sen warned here Wednesday [27 November] against demonstrators' resorting to violence against any SNC members.

The prime minister was accompanied by motorcycle police escorts to the place where demonstrators were attempting to force their way into the Khmer Rouge residence soon after Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan's arrival here from Bangkok.

Hun Sen appealed to the demonstrators to be peaceful in airing their views. He said that only peaceful demonstrations were allowed.

Thousands of demonstrators stormed into the residence at noon-time today and broke glass doors and windows and burned property there.

Riot policemen with shields and sticks and fire-hoses rushed to the scene to disperse the angry demonstrators. However, the latter, mostly students, still circled the residence as they were urged on by a large crowd of people.

Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge leader who was responsible for the death of hundreds of thousands of innocent Cambodians between 1975 and 1979, arrived here this morning and was met by thousands of demonstrators along the streets.

The demonstrators carried banners and streamers bearing the words "Down With the Khmer Rouge" and "Pol Pot's the Killer." They marched along the main streets early in the day to protest the killer.

The Khmer Rouge residence east of the national stadium, according to people living near it, was recently bought for about 300 taels of gold by unknown customers.

Many demonstrators screamed "Let's kill Khieu Samphan" because he was a close associate of Pol Pot. Windows and gates at that mini-villa were broken down by demonstrators.

A police force of about many dozen men called out through megaphones "Brothers and sisters please stay quiet" as an estimated 1,000 people attacked the villa.

At the same time, demonstrators gathered at the sidewalk, picking up stones and throwing them at the house. They climbed over the fence, but were pulled down by police. [passage omitted]

The attack on the house was continuing unabated at 1:00 PM soon after the Khmer Rouge leader's arrival.

The incidents quickly spread through the city and became a main topic at every coffee shop.

Khieu Samphan Rescued by Army

BK2711084291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0803 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 27 (AFP)—Violent mobs physically attacked Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan here Wednesday, forcing the governmment to bring in army tanks and evacuate him to the airport to be flown out to Bangkok.

The Khmer Rouge leader was seen bleeding from the head as he was led to a tank.

Before the army moved in he was seen cornered on the floor of a closet in the house where he had taken refuge as people with sticks prepared to lynch him from a cord hung on a ceiling fan.

Troops swarmed into the room and pulled the people off, driving them down the stairs before evacuating Khieu Samphan, who had arrived only hours earlier from the Thai capital.

Prime Minister Hun Sen, directing the evacuation from across the street along with top military officials, said the government could not possibly have foreseen the extreme reaction of the people.

He said that as soon as the government realized there was a problem with crowd control they asked to meet with Khieu Samphan to discuss the situation.

"But Khieu Samphan waited an hour before he would see us," and the government could not prepare the evacuation without his approval, Hun Sen said.

"Now he has agreed to be flown to Bangkok."

Asked if the situation threatened the success of the Cambodian peace process, involving the government, the Khmer Rouge and two other factions, Hun Sen said, "It's too early to tell what is going to happen."

Khieu Samphan 'Dazed and Frail'

BK2711112991 Hong Kong AFP in English 1105 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 27 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan left for Bangkok Wednesday, driven out of the Cambodian capital after unruly mobs attacked and tried to kill him.

He was accompanied by Son Sen, the other representative of the Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh, and members of his entourage aboard a special government-arranged Kampuchea Air flight, journalists noted.

The Khmer Rouge officials met with Prime Minister Hun Sen for a half hour before their departure.

Khieu Samphan, slightly injured in the attack, was able to walk to the plane, but he appeared dazed and frail.

In a government statement, Phnom Penh said it regretted that its campaign to try to disuade people from violence had failed.

Khieu Samphan Leaves for Bangkok

BK2711113591 Hong Kong AFP in English 1122 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Bangkok, Nov 27 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, forced to flee Phnom Penh for his life after an enraged mob attempted to lynch him, arrived here Wednesday evening, well informed sources said.

Khieu Samphan and other Khmer Rouge officials arrived on a special flight which landed at the military section of Bangkok's international airport.

Communique Expresses 'Regrets'

BK2711141991 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1124 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 27 Nov (SPK)—Messrs. Son Sen and Khieu Samphan, representing the Khmer Rouge within Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC], had to board a plane for Bangkok today following attempts by crowds to storm the house where they were staying, announces a communique of the State of Cambodia's Government.

Khieu Samphan arrived in Phnom Penh around 1100 while Son Sen has been here since 17 November.

Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, had to intervene in person in order to avert the "lynching of the Khmer Rouge representatives," said a communique of which here is the full text:

"Upon learning about the arrival in Phnom Penh of Messrs. Son Sen and Khieu Samphan, representing the Party of Democratic Kampuchea within the framework of the SNC, the people in Phnom Penh, tens thousands strong, demonstrated since yesterday evening against the presence of Khmer Rouge officials in the capital.

"Starting early today, the demonstrations resumed more or less throughout the city, and taking advantage of Mr. Khieu Samphan's arrival, the demonstrators attacked the house where Democratic Kampuchea representatives were staying.

"The State of Cambodia's security forces, directed personally by Prime Minister Hun Sen, were swarmed by this wave of demonstrators.

"Mr. Hun Sen implored the crowd —which managed to get inside the house—not to lynch the Khmer Rouge representatives.

"Following negotiations with the crowd, Messrs. Son Sen and Khieu Samphan and their assistants finally had to be evacuated in armored vehicles to the airport, leaving for Bangkok on a special plane of the State of Cambodia.

"As host, the State of Cambodia's Government, while understanding the sentiments of the people, regrets that the persuasion campaigns conducted over many days for them to renounce this demonstration have not been met with success.

"Despite this incident, the State of Cambodia pledges to faithfully implement the peace agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991, so that it can be fully accomplished."

Sihanouk Urges Emergency Meeting

BK2711124891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1227 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Nov 27 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk has called for an emergency meeting of all parties involved in the Cambodian peace plan, after Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan was forced to flee Phnom Penh for his life, well informed sources said here Wednesday.

The sources said the prince wanted the meeting to be held in Bangkok as soon as possible, Phnom Penh being out of the question following the attempt on Khieu Samphan's life.

Prince Sihanouk is reported to have invited all four Cambodian factions, who make up the Supreme National Council (SNC), the country's interim government until elections can be held, to the meeting.

Invitations have also gone out to French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Rafiuddin Ahmad, the United Nations senior representative for Cambodia.

The appeal for the meeting came as diplomats in the Thai capital expressed fears that the carefully worked out UN peace plan for Cambodia was at risk following the attack on Khieu Samphan.

The 62-year-old Khmer Rouge leader, who is also their senior SNC member, had to be rescued by Phnom Penh troops after an enraged mob attempted to lynch him only hours after his return to the capital. [passage omitted]

Diplomats: Peace Plan in Jeopardy

BK2711115491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0952 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Bangkok, Nov 27 (AFP)—Cambodia's carefully worked out United Nations-brokered peace plan is in jeopardy after a frenzied Phnom Penh mob attempted to lynch Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, Bangkok-based diplomats said Wednesday.

Envoys closely linked to the peace agreement, signed in Paris in October, which finally brought Cambodia's bloody 13-year-old war to an end, described the situation as very serious.

The key to carrying out the peace plan is the Phnom Penh-based Supreme National Council (SNC), an interim authority made up of the four former warring factions.

Khieu Samphan is the senior Khmer Rouge official on the SNC, but having been forced to flee the Cambodian capital for his life only hours after his arrival there is confusion as to how the SNC can now meet.

"The whole basis of the agreement centres around the SNC meeting in Phnom Pehn. The fact that Khieu Samphan's security cannot be assured poses serious implications about the future of the SNC," said one diplomat.

Other diplomats voiced the same opinions.

"Obviously it will be very difficult now for the SNC to function. What happened to Khieu Samphan poses all sorts of problems," said one senior envoy.

The first formal SNC meeting since the Paris agreement had been scheduled for early next month, but diplomats here have grave doubts it will be able to go ahead as planned.

"My first reaction is 'how can it go ahead?' Somehow the security of the Khmer Rouge has to be guaranteed. Until it is I cannot see Khieu Samphan returning to Phnom Penh," said one envoy.

"We will have to wait and see what the Khmer Rouge say about the incident, see how they react," he added.

'Mature', Stable Attitude Urged

BK2711140591 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 1200 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] There are reports about a number of people having attacked the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen in Phnom Penh, breaking doors and windows and even causing injuries.

1. According to many radio and televison reports around the world, a number of persons have attacked the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen in Phnom Penh, breaking doors and windows and causing some injury.

2. With the prevailing situation brought about by this incident, all Cambodians in and outside the country and people the world over are asking whether this is an act of Cambodians or foreigners. Or is this an act of those who love the nation, the Cambodian people, democracy, and peace, and who want to implement the Paris agreement, or is it an act of those who oppose peace and democracy and the Paris agreement on Cambodia?

3. In fact, the Paris agreement, which was solemnly and officially signed on 23 October 1991, was the result of nearly 13- years effort of the Cambodian people, all Cambodian nationalists, and peace- and justice-loving governments and people the world over. The entire Cambodian people want the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement implemented correctly and meticulously so that security and peace will return to a nationally independent Cambodia.

ASEAN countries and other peace- and justice-loving countries all over the world also want the correct and meticulous implementation of this Paris agreement so that security, peace, and stability can be restored in Southeast Asia.

4. Therefore, the force that wants the Paris agreement implemented well, correctly, and meticulously; the force that wants peace to be genuinely restored in Cambodia; the force that wants peace and stability in Southeast Asia, particularly the force of the entire Cambodian people—who have suffered for nearly 13 years in (?the war)—these forces will certainly unite and strive and continue to further implement this Paris agreement well, correctly, and meticulously. These forces want the full Supreme National Council [SNC] headquartered in Phnom Penh, carrying out its work with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia in accordance with the Paris agreement.

We are of the opinion that Cambodians of all bents should not quarrel and fight against one another. All Cambodians should unite and forget the past which is caused not by Cambodians. They should unite and look to the future so that the nation has security and peace with national independence, and the unity and the conditions for normalizing and developing the economy and the people's lives.

The entire Cambodian people and all Cambodian nationalists should continue to maintain a mature and stable attitude as they have done. We will not fall into the trap or manuevers of the destroyers of the agreement and peace and independence of the Cambodian nation and people.

Reaction to Call for Total Demobilization Noted

Son Sen Supports Call 23 Nov

BK2711011691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], has said that the armed forces of each Cambodian faction must be dismantled 100 percent.

The SNC held a meeting on 23 November at its office in Phnom Penh under the chairmanship of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state, and Mr. Roland Dumas, French foreign minister and a cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC].

After the meeting between the SNC and the French foreign minister who is PICC cochairman, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state and SNC chairman, said clearly that the armed forces of the four Cambodian factions must be dismantled 100 percent, not just 70 percent with the remaining 30 percent being retained.

On that occasion, His Excellency Son Sen, supreme commander of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] and member of the SNC, clearly stressed before the SNC and the French foreign minister, who is a PICC cochairman, that the Democratic Kampuchea [DK] party fully agrees with the statement of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state and chairman of the SNC, that all Cambodian factions' armed forces be dismantled 100 percent.

His Excellency Son Sen, supreme commander of the NADK and member of the SNC, stressed further that the DK party and all tripartite resistance forces had proposed the total dismantling of each Cambodian faction's armed forces long ago, that is, even before the drafting of the UN documents dated 28 August 1990 and 26 November 1990 and before the signing of the Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991.

After His Excellency Son Sen made this statement, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state and chairman of the SNC, told the SNC members and the French foreign minister, who is a PICC cochairman, that the DK party had the same opinion as the samdech regarding the 100-percent dismantling of each Cambodian faction's armed forces.

At the same time, the French foreign minister, who is a PICC cochairman, told newsmen present there that all of them should immediately publicize His Excellency Son Sen's affirmation of this 100-percent dismantling of each Cambodian faction's forces.

DK Army Supports Dismantlement

BK2711025491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 26 Nov 91

[27 November statement by the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea]

[Text] Statement of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] in support of the statement made by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], that each Cambodian faction's armed forces must be dismantled 100 percent:

The NADK fully supports the statement of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the SNC, made at the SNC meeting held on the night of 23 November 1991 at the SNC office in Phnom Penh, that each Cambodian faction's armed forces must be dismantled 100 percent.

This statement of the samdech was made out of his desire for Cambodia to quickly achieve independence, security, and peace and for all Cambodian people to reconcile and unite into a great national union under the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state. This statement is fully in line with the wish of all Cambodian people both inside and outside the country who want independence and peace to quickly prevail so that they can reunite with their families and have the opportunity to work and earn their living peacefully.

Therefore, this statement of the samdech, head of state and chairman of the SNC, clearly reflects the desire of the entire Cambodian people for a genuine manifestation of national reconciliation and reunification.

Moreover, the Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991 also stresses clearly that each Cambodian faction's armed forces should be dismantled totally, as defined in Article 5, second phrase, point A: If all Cambodian factions agree that all armed forces must be dismantled, the special envoy of the UN secretary general will arrange for this army dismantling program through discussions with all Cambodian factions.

Dismantling only 70 percent of each Cambodian faction's armed forces and keeping the remaining 30 percent might bring about many complex problems harmful to each faction and to the people.

The entire Cambodian people want all factions' armed forces to be dismantled totally so that peace and security can quickly prevail, thus enabling them to work and earn their living peacefully.

The United Nations also wants this, and the Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991 also wants this. Therefore, it is imperative for the SNC—the legitimate and sole source of authority representing Cambodia's sovereignty and national unity inside and outside the country during the transitional period—for the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, for the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, and for all countries which took part in the Paris International Conference on Cambodia to jointly implement the Paris agreement on the point dealing with the total dismantling of each Cambodian faction's armed forces from now on. Only by so doing will this agreement be easily and quickly implemented and will peace and security prevail in the whole of Cambodia within the near future.

This is the desire of the Cambodian people and the whole world now that the four Cambodian factions in the SNC headed by the samdech head of state have established good contact with each other and have gradually begun to trust each other.

These are the new conditions arising after Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the SNC, returned to Phnom Penh, after the SNC set up its office in Phnom Penh, after the arrival of foreign ministers and ambassadors of various countries to Phnom Penh, and after the successive arrival of UN peacekeeping teams.

These conditions make it appropriate for each faction's armed forces to be dismantled 100 percent in accordance with the insightful wish of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the SNC.

[Dated] 27 November 1991

Sihanouk Receives Canadian Envoy to SNC

BK2511124291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1119 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 25th—Prince Norodom Sihanouk received in Phnom Penh Mr. Arthur Perron, chief of the Canadian mission accredited to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC).

Prince Sihanouk, who resigned as president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the head of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] in August, expressed thanks to the Canadian Government for its efforts toward the signing of the peace treaty in Paris on October 23.

The success of the peace process in Cambodia was also a success for Canada, the prince said, adding that the SNC and himself would provide all necessary facilities for the chief of the Canadian diplomatic mission here to fulfil his mission.

Mr. Arthur Perron, who arrived in Phnom Penh Sunday with the accompaniment of Mr. Dhavernas, was the eighth diplomat accredited to the SNC who met Prince Sihanouk since his return here on Nov. 14.

Canada is among the 22 countries which have pledged to send their troops to the U.N. peace-keeping forces in Cambodia.

Sihanouk's Office Issues Communique 23 Nov

BK2611163491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] The four Cambodian parties have officially and solemnly declared in writing that Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], remains Cambodia's legitimate and rightful head of state since 1960 until the elections in 1993.

The office of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk released a press communique on 23 November specifying that all four Cambodian parties—namely the party of His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, the party of Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the party of Chea Sim-Hun Sen, and the party of Democratic Kampuchea—have officially and solemnly declared in writing that from 1960, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk remains Cambodia's legitimate and rightful head of state until 1993 when general elections are held under the control of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, or UNTAC.

This communique also says that Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk is head of state of the whole of Cambodia and will not interfere in political affairs of the government of the People's Party of the State of Cambodia, the FUNCINPEC party, or the party of Democratic Kampuchea. Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk will remain in a position of national coordinator and father of peace, unification, and liberal democracy based on a Cambodian policy with Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk as head of state and will constantly adhere to a parliamentary system and not one relying on a president.

The communique adds that Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk will remain above the three political parties and authority establishments—namely the legislative, executive, and judiciary institutions. He will only concern himself with how to improve the Cambodian people's living standards and the reconstruction of Cambodia. In the international arena, he will be the lofty representative of an independent Cambodia and a symbol of Cambodia's sovereignty and integrity.

Ranariddh: SOC Alliance To Guarantee Peace

BK2711142991 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 27—The leader of Prince Norodom Sihanouk's guerrilla faction Tuesday defended an alliance with the Phnom Penh government, saying it would guarantee "genuine peace" in Cambodia and war [as received].

According to Cambodian sources, Prince Ranariddh met in Bangkok Monday [25 November] with Khmer Rouge Chief Khieu Samphan.

The sources refused to disclose further details of the meeting.

Prince Sihanouk, only a few months ago the figurehead chief of the Khmer Rouge-dominated guerrilla coalition, is the neutral chairman of a 12-member Supreme National Council [SNC] grouping representatives of all rival Cambodian groups.

Following the Paris accord, Prince Sihanouk and Prince Ranariddh returned to Phnom Penh from exile and announced that the leadership in Phnom Penh and the Sihanoukist group are to form a coalition government amd military alliance.

Prince Ranariddh, who left Phnom Penh on Sunday [24 November] for talks in Bangkok with military and civilian officials belonging to his faction, said in his statement "the new alliance in the political and the military field is an important step forward for national reconciliation of Cambodia."

In a separate statement broadcast over Radio Phnom Penh, monitored in Bangkok, Prince Ranariddh described his new alliance with Phnom Penh as "not only an excellent symbol but also a correct stance leading to genuine peace."

Aides to Prince Ranariddh said senior military commanders of Phnom Penh and the guerrilla faction had signed a military alliance to oversee Cambodia's ceasefire.

The military accord calls for free travel in each other's zones, they said.

Prince Ranariddh's troops control a small zone in northern Cambodia, south of the Thai border. They also operate along with the Khmer Rouge in central Cambodia.

SNC Secretariat Appeals for International Aid

BK2711145691 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1104 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Nov. 27—The Secretariat of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia issued a press communique here today calling for material and financial assistance from friendly countries to create the favourable conditions for the implementation of Cambodia peace agreements.

The press communique reads as follows:

1—The Secretariat of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia met at the headquarters of the SNC in Phnom Penh on 25 November 1991.

2—They expressed concerns about the lack of office equipment, supplies, furniture, fax/phone, means of transportation and running costs for the operation of the SNC and its Secretariat.

3—In this connection, the SNC Secretariat heartily welcomes both material and financial assistance from friendly countries in order to create favourable conditions for the SNC meeting and for the implementation of the Cambodia peace agreements.

Thai Foreign Minister Talks With Hun Sen

BK2411100191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 23 Nov 91

[Text] On the morning of 21 November in Phnom Penh, His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, and H.E. Asa Sarasin, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, held cordial talks on relations, economic cooperation and infrastructure construction.

Present at the meeting were, on the State of Cambodia's side, 13 senior officials who are leading cadres from various key economic-related departments. The deputy ministers of agriculture and finance and 24 representatives of different important Thai companies and enterprises represented the Kingdom of Thailand.

At the talks, the Cambodian and Thai parties agreed on cooperation in agriculture, trade, industry, communications, and electricity; technical training assistance [words indistinct], and the inclusion of the State of Cambodia in the Interim Mekong Committee.

Leaves After 3-Day Visit 22 Nov

BK2311090791 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0904 GMT 22 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 23 Nov (SPK)—A delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand's Foreign Ministry led by its Minister Asa Sarasin left Phnom Penh on 22 November at the end of a three-day official visit to Cambodia.

During the visit, which was conducted at the invitation of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, the Thai foreign minister, on behalf of the Thai Government, on 21 November signed, with the SNC chairman and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], a memorandum of understanding on the repatriation of Cambodian refugees from Thailand scheduled for 1992. And at a news conference on the same day, Asa Sarasin expressed support for the SNC chaired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and for the implementation of a peace accord.

"We establish the relations not only with the SNC but also with all four Cambodian parties," he said.

On the alliance between the Cambodian People's Party and the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia, the head of Thailand's diplomacy said:

"The alliance between the two parties is Cambodia's internal affairs. I have never had any intention to interfere."

On the issue of the Cambodian refugees, the Thai foreign minister expressed his desire to see the repatriation carried out as soon as possible. "The UNHCR should take care of the return so as to enable the refugees to participate in elections and national reconstruction," he said.

Asa Sarasin also underlined aid granted by the Thai Government for restoring a stretch of road between Poi Pet and Sisophon, "which is part of an important contribution to facilitating the forthcoming repatriation and reinforcing the neighborly relations between the two countries."

The Thai guests, who have come to Cambodia since 20 November, visited the national museum in Phnom Penh and the temple of Angkor Wat in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, and especially participated in the water festival celebration.

The delegation is the first mission of the Thai Foreign Ministry to visit Cambodia since Prince Norodom Sihanouk's homecoming on 14 November.

Cooperation Talks Held With French Team

BK2511134691 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1108 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 25th—Talks on the multiform cooperation between the State of Cambodia and the Republic of France were held here over the weekend during the Cambodia visit of Foreign Minister Roland Dumas.

Prime Minister Hun Sen, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, who led an eight-member of the delegation [as received] of the Cambodian side, has asked the French delegation to provide aid to Cambodia, especially in social warfare [as received], and suggested to France, who is a member of the EEC, to persuade other EEC members to help rebuild Cambodia.

Mr. Roland Dumas, who led an eight-member French delegation, pledged to help reconstruct this war-town country, but said that the possibility of giving aid and its size showed [as received] wait for the government's ratification.

Another French delegation will be sent to Cambodia next month to estimate the concrete need in Cambodia.

The two sides focussed on bilateral cooperation in the economic field, especially in planning, agriculture, education, health care, communications and posts, financial affairs and the restoration of the country's infrastructure.

The two sides discussed in detail the measures to implement the peace agreement on Cambodia signed in Paris on October 23 and to prepare for the work of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

On the same day, Mr. Kong Sam-ol, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, met representatives of 25 major French firms, who accompanied Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, on investment opportunities in Cambodia and on the restoration of Cambodia's infrastructure.

Foreign Aid to Kompong Speu Province Reported

BK2611140091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0432 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Nov. 26—Six international organisations have donated relief aid to displaced people in Kompong Speu Province in a bid to ameliorate their living standard this year.

The World Food Program (WFP) provided 1,200 tons of husked rice while the OXFAM [Oxford Committee for Famine Relief] and CARE [Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere] gave clothing and consumer goods to war victims in the province.

The World Church Council (WCC) donated 4,500 U.S. dollar and 40,000 riel to the displaced people in [words indistinct] through the Cambodian Red Cross for the construction of five school-buildings. It also gave 450,000 riel worth of farm-tools and vegetable seeds to the district.

The province's war victims committee has received 1.2 million riel from World Vision International to build 200 dwelling houses for war victims in Treng Trayoeng commune, same province. It also received 2.76 million riel from Mr. Pung Pengcheng as funds to construct a hospital building in Aoral District.

In the just-ended monsoon season, the joint Australian Non-Governmental Organisation Office (JANGOO) and the Agriculture Ministry supplied the province with farm-tools, 28 tons of chemical fertilizer, 11 tons of rice seeds, 200 litres of insecticide, 12,000 litres of fuel and a good number of [word indistinct] ties.

[Words indistinct] from these organisations, [words indistinct] have put 1,200 ha under rice, 400 ha under bean and 200 ha under maize this year. They also upgraded a reservoir capable of storing three million cubic metres of water for their crop and daily use.

Kompong Speu now counts 5,500 war victims families with 31,000 members, of whom 10 per cent are widows and 50 per cent children aged under 15.

Indonesia

Military Chief Says Foreigners 'Involved' in Riot

BK2711115591 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1051 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 27 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) commander General Try Sutrisno said on Wednesday that he strongly suspected the five foreign journalists who were in East Timor at the time the riot took place on November 12 were involved in the incident.

It was learned that there were five foreigners who were actively involved in the (Dili) riot, they took pictures of the bloody incident with their video cameras and yet they were registered as only tourists in their visa application, Gen. Try said.

"It is not impossible that they are involved in helping create the incident, or that they are used by parties that are against the East Timor integration into Indonesia," the general told members of parliament in a hearing.

He said that there was always a possibility that the five foreign journalists, under the pretext of going on sightseeing in East Timor's capital of Dili, were used by certain parties to create tendentious reports [passage indistinct] security troops during which 19 people were killed and 91 others were injured.

Try reiterated the government's commitment to thoroughly and objectively investigate into the tragic incident and that firm measures would be taken on those who were found guilty no matter who the culprits were.

He reminded, however, that Indonesia would not allow any foreign country to interfere in the investigative work.

Appealing to the Indonesian public, particularly the East Timorese people, Try said that they should not fall victim to or be instigated by unreliable foreign news reports.

The Wednesday hearing on security and political affairs was chaired by Imron Rosyadi, while the ABRI commander was accompanied by Air Force and Navy chiefs of staff, Vice Marshal Sibun and Vice- Admiral Mohamed Arifin, deputy Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Sahala Rajaguguk, and the National Police Chief Lieutenant- General Kunarto.

Try said that to the Indonesian people, the East Timor issue had been completely solved and that it was an integrated part of the Republic of Indonesia. But we should also admit, he added, that it was still listed as a disputed territory between Indonesia and Portugal in the agenda of the United Nations.

"As a country which feels responsible and takes active part in implementing world order, Indonesia willingly welcomes the United Nations initiative to settle the issue," Try said.

East Timor, Portugal's former colony, integrated itself into Indonesia in 1976, when the Portuguese Government withdrew from the territory following an outbreak of civil war. Jakarta severed diplomatic ties with the Lisbon Government shortly after the integration.

According to the ABRI commander, the cancellation of a trip to East Timor by Portuguese parliamentarians in early November had frustrated the Anti-Integration Group (GPK) who wanted to demonstrate its existence in the province.

Try said that the security troops had refrained themselves from taking harsh actions against the 2,000 marchers on November 12, but that the marchers had turned wild and even threw a hand grenade at the soldiers, compelling the security officials to shoot at the brutal demonstrators in self-defence.

"As a result of the tragic incident, 13 people were killed on the spot and 97 others were injured and were hospitalized. But later six more died at the hospital. Of the 288 people arrested following the incident, now there remains only 42 people. They are still under detention for further interrogations.

Police Release 49 East Timor Protesters

BK2711092791 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0838 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 27 (OANA-ANTARA)—Jakarta police here Tuesday evening relased from detention 49 of the 70 East Timorese youngsters who conducted a demonstration in front of the Australian Embassy on November 19 due to legal reasons.

Spokesman of the Jakarta police A. Latief Rabar said the interrogation process on the 49 youngsters had finished although whenever needed the police could still summon them.

The other 21, he said, were still being intensively interrogated. Rabar said the East Timorese youngsters were detained because they were considered to have spread anti-Indonesia spirit and insulted the government.

On rumors that one of the detainess has died, he ruled them out and said, "everybody is okay. No one has died."

Meanwhile, a team of the Indonesian Legal Aid Institute (YLBHI) which has offered a legal support to the detainess had only been able to meet three of them, Joao Freitas Camara, Jose Anthony Layola, and Gabriel Anthony.

Freitas—believed to be the leader of the demonstrators—was detained separately from his friends.

When meeting the three, YLBHI team was informed that all of the detaines had been treated well.

The team in a press statement, however, still expressed the hope that it would be able to see them directly and accompany them during interrogation.

Resistance Spokesman on Portugal, U.S. Role

LD2611143891 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 0000 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Report by Irene Briote on remarks by Jose Ramos Horta, spokesman for the Timorese resistance, on 25 November; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] In Timor, military operations are being intensified. Irene Briote reports.

[Begin recording] [Briote] The situation is very tense in Timor. [passage omitted] The situation is expected to deteriorate in the next few days. Jose Ramos Horta, spokesman for the Timorese resistance, spoke to our station tonight:

[Horta] Indirect reports arriving via Bali say intensive military operations are being carried out close to the border and in the Los Palos region, on the eastern side of the island. Several additional battalions have been brought into the territory. I believe there are at the moment about 30,000 men, deployed in all administrative regions, strategic regions, backed by helicopters and armored cars. Offensives against the resistance, which we forecast a few days ago, have been launched although not on such a big scale as it was feared. This is expected to happen in the next few days, however. Several offensives, some considerable operations have already started in the Los Palos region.

[Briote] [passage omitted] There are more reports of violence. Since the Dili massacre there have been a further three massacres and 97 Timorese have been killed. The reports of violence run parallel with diplomatic efforts, which are being welcomed in Timor. According to Horta, however, they are not enough. Much depends on the United States and Great Britain, who so far have not taken a clear stance on Timor. [passage omitted]

[Horta] The United States and Great Britain, Portugal's major allies, strategic allies, have been the least receptive to this tragedy. Hitherto the United States has not condemned the massacre and England has merely signed the declaration of the 12. Despite the accounts provided by two of its journalists, and a U.S. Congress resolution, the United States still considers that Indonesia is more important than Portugal. This is because Portugal has not yet flexed its muscles at the United States. I believe this to be the result of a policy of appeasement and servility toward the United States that goes back many years, many decades.

I cannot accept that, in view of this situation, the United States remains totally hypocritical. This is a sign, above all a symptom of contempt for Portugal, not to say for East Timor. I believe it is time Portugal reacted very firmly.

[Briote] [passage omitted] Jakarta's commission of inquiry into the Dili massacre has been the target of strong protest. A group of Portuguese jurists has already called for it to be wound up for lack of credibility. According to Horta, Jakarta does not listen to the demands. It will continue with its policy of arrogance because it knows it will be echoed by Washington and London.

[Horta] Jakarta's response will display the same arrogance because it will be echoed by Washington and London, its two largest arms suppliers, and so far we have not heard any criticism from the United Kingdom or the United States. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Editorial Warns Against U.S. Use of Facilities

BK1911103391 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 12 Nov 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Before the U.S. Comes"]

[Text] In its efforts to find alternative military facilities to replace those it will lose in the Philippines in 1993, the United States has yet to approach Jakarta about the matter. However, Washington is hovering around the region apparently ready to approach Southeast Asian countries for various kinds of military facilities although it is quite clear that after its experiences in the Philippines, Washington has no intention of building new military bases in any ASEAN member countries.

In Jakarta this week, reacting to a recent report in the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW on the possibility that Washington would approach Indonesia for the use of maintenance facilities on a commercial basis at P.T. PAL's shipyard in Surabaya and at the Siabu air training range in Sumatera, Armed Forces Commander Gen. Try Sutrisno was reported as saying that the government had never thought of the possibility.

According to the general, the shipyard, which is managed by the civilians, could always repair any passing ships in accordance to international law.

But how about repairing a warship? Gen. Try would not give a detailed answer on this because no formal request had been made by Washington for the purpose.

Singapore has decided to boost security cooperation with Washington and other ASEAN countries might follow suit. But for Indonesia, where active and independent neutrality has been a foreign policy philosophy since the beginning of independence, any military cooperation using military facilities would be a very sensitive issue.

Unlike other Southeast Asian countries, Indonesia has never invited foreign troops to solve local problems. The use of any facilities by foreign countries for military purposes elsewhere in Southeast Asia has been frowned upon for a long time, let alone the presence of a foreign military base.

The latest developments in the global geopolitics with the end of the Cold War makes any use of Indonesian facilities by foreign military forces more incomprehensible, if not pointless. And any shift from genuine active and independent policy would put this country in an awkward position in the eyes of the world, damage its image abroad, and create complications in bilateral relations with many friendly countries.

Other ASEAN countries have the freedom to decide their own stances on this matter, but Indonesia's historical background will allow it only one choice.

Permanent Representative To SNC Appointed

BK2611073091 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Excerpt] President Suharto has consented to the appointment of Taufik Sudardo as Indonesia's permanent representative to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, the SNC.

The announcement was made by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas in Caracas, Venezuela after high-level talks between Indonesian and Venezuelan officials. This is our correspondent Kabul Budiono's recording from Caracas.

[Begin recording] [Kabul Budiono] President Suharto has consented to the appointment of Taufik Sudardo as Indonesia's permanent representative to Cambodia's Supreme National Council, the SNC. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas made this announcement after President Suharto and his Venezuelan counterpart President Peres held talks at the presidential palace this morning.

[Alatas] This does not mean that we are placing an accredited ambassador to a country or a government. We should wait until the Cambodian problem has been fully solved and a new government is elected based on the upcoming general elections. We are only placing an official as a permanent representative from Indonesia and he is only accredited to the SNC. However, I can only say that there is no need for [words indistinct].

[Kabul Budiono] That is the (?clarification) by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Coordinating Minister of Finance Radius Prawiro have clarified the position on the steps to be taken by Venezuela and Indonesia in connection with further improving their bilateral relations and cooperation in technical and economic fields. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Trade Minister Meets Norwegian Counterpart

BK2611114091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1028 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Jakarta, Nov 25 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia wished to enhance trade relations and investment with Norway in the efforts to decrease the trade deficit between the two countries, the more so because several commodities had so far been traded through third countries, Trade Minister Arifin Siregar said here on Monday.

The minister pointed this out to journalists after meeting with Norwegian Minister of Trade ad interim Finn Kristensen, who is concurrently his country's minister of oil and energy.

Indonesia's exports to Norway in 1989 reached $7.6 million, while its imports from that country reached $28.6 million, Indonesia thus suffering a deficit of $21 million.

In 1990, Indonesia's exports to Norway stood at $13.3 million, while its imports from that country at $49.2 million, a deficit of $35.9 million for Indonesia.

During the period between January and May this year, Indonesian exports to Norway reached a value of $5.7 million while its imports from that country stood at $10.6 million, a deficit of $4.9 million for Indonesia.

This deficit was far lower than that suffered by Indonesia in the same period of 1990 which stood at $16.1 million.

"We would like to increase our exports to Norway, particularly textiles, so far, Indonesia has exported timber, plywood, textiles and textile products and shoes. Norway on the other hand wishes to sell its goods and to invest in Indonesia", Minister Arifin Siregar said. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, when asked by journalists whether Indonesia could supply various goods required by Norway, Arifin Siregar said that Indonesia was able to supply high-quality goods required by Norway, such as textiles, textile products, and shoes.

Laos

French Foreign Minister Dumas Visits 26 Nov

Urges Human Rights Improvements

BK2611145691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1326 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 26 (AFP)—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas urged Laos's leaders on Tuesday to make an effort to promote individual freedoms and human rights, notably by granting clemency to political prisoners.

Dumas, the first French foreign minister to visit Laos since its independence in 1954, discussed bilateral relations with his Laotian counterpart Phoun Sipaseut and President Kaysone Phomvihan, his spokesman Daniel Bernard said.

The French minister, who is here for a brief stopover at the end of an Indochina tour that has already taken him to Cambodia and Vietnam, also discussed the Cambodian issue with his hosts.

Dumas stressed the French Government's desire for the authorities here to "go further and move faster" with the programme of economic and political opening it launched a few years ago, Bernard said.

The spokesman said the minister had especially urged clemency for listed political prisoners, adding that "fewer than one dozen" cases fell into this category.

On a bilateral level, Dumas urged the Laotian Government to give the go-ahead to the opening of an Alliance Francaise in the capital, for which preparations are complete.

France's commercial exchanges with Laos have expanded rapidly since 1989, increasing from 2.5 million francs (452,500 dollars) to a predicted 17.4 million (3.1 million dollars) in 1992.

Paris and Vientiane are expected in the next few weeks to sign an agreement on the granting of 12 million francs (2.2 million dollars) to Laos, Bernard said.

Phomvihan emphasised the Laotian Government's desire to institute reforms and open up to the outside world, while acknowledging that "a lot remained to be done" to switch from a socialist to a market economy.

According to the French spokesman, the Laotian president specified three problems that would be given priority—the country's poor communications network, its low standard of sanitation and its low level of education.

In an effort to help overcome the final problem, France is working with the Laotian Government to set up a "national administration and management school," Bernard said.

The French spokesman said Dumas had declared himself "reasonably optimistic" about the situation in Cambodia, despite the continuing lack of trust between the factions. The Laotian leaders, also signatories of the Cambodian peace agreement, expressed their concern over this mistrust.

Both sides stressed the need to maintain the unity of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, the provisional body set up under the U.N. peace plan and grouping all the factions of the 13-year-old civil war.

After a short visit to the ancient royal capital of Luang-Prabang, Dumas is due to leave here Tuesday evening for Paris, ending a trip marking France's return to Indochina that was greeted with varying degrees of enthusiasm.

The minister was given a warm welcome in Cambodia, particularly by former monarch and SNC chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk, whose recent return to Phnom Penh from a 13-year exile was made possible by the peace settlement, in which France played a major role.

In Vietnam, however, Dumas's meetings with officials did not always run so smoothly, particularly when he brought up the sensitive issues of human rights and responsibility for Vietnam's isolation over the past few decades.

In both countries, the French minister announced aid packages, but made clear that they did not come without strings. In return, France expects to "reestablish its place in Indochina," he said.

While in Cambodia he said France had pledged 50 million francs (9.1 million dollars) worth of aid to the country for 1992—30 million francs (5.4 million dollars) in economic cooperation and 20 million francs (3.6 million dollars) in emergency aid.

For Vietnam, Dumas announced assistance of 95 million francs (17.2 million dollars) for infrastructure development and personnel training and 45 million francs (8.1 million dollars) in cultural, scientific and technical aid.

Holds News Conference on Visit

BK2711142291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] During a news conference held at the French ambassador's residence yesterday evening, His Excellency [H.E.] French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas told Lao and foreign reporters about the outcome of his 12-hour visit to Laos. H.E. Roland Dumas said his visit to Laos was an urgent one. He noted that relations between France and Laos have improved, in particularly after the visit to France of a high-level Lao delegation led by H.E. Kaysone Phomvihan in 1989 which marked a new step of the expansion of technical and cultural cooperation between the two countries. H.E. Roland Dumas also added that during the past three years, the French Republic increased aid to Laos from 2.5 million francs to 17.4 million francs. The money was used for the improvement of the Polytechnic Institute and the school of adminstration and management, opening the French Language Learning Center, and installation of a satellite television station to relay French TV programs [words indistinct] 14 hours per day.

Touching on economic cooperation, H.E. Roland Dumas recalled the signing of a financial aid agreement for 1990 under which Laos was given 13.8 million francs. The amount of financial aid to Laos in 1992 is still under consideration. However, His Excellency Roland Dumas said it is unlikely that the predesignated figure would be changed. The delivery of two (APA) aircraft purchased by Laos will be made in 1992. The two countries will continue their cooperation in the fields of electricity production and education.

Regarding the Cambodian problem, H.E. Roland Dumas said that the four Cambodian factions have demonstrated their sincerity in making efforts to achieve national reunification and reconciliation. The countries participating in the recent Paris conference on Cambodia also expressed their satisfaction with the solution to the Cambodian problem.

Activities, Departure Reported

BK2711033291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] After the arrival in the capital, Vientiane, by His Excellency [H.E.] French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas for an official visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], on 26 November at the Government Guest House H.E. Phoun Sipaseut deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister of the LPDR, held an official meeting with the French counterpart.

During the one-hour meeting, H.E. Phoun Sipaseut and H.E. Roland Dumas exchanged views in an atmosphere of friendship and frankness. The two sides informed each other of the situation in their respective countries and also discussed the strengthening of friendship relations and cooperation between Laos and France. The two sides agreed that the relations and cooperation between the countries in the past have made progress, especially following the 1989 visit and the recent visit to France by H.E. Kaysone Phomvihan—the latter to attend the francophone summit.

H.E. Roland Dumas expressed interest in the open door policy of the Lao government as stated by H.E. Phoun Sipaseut. The French foreign minister noted that the LPDR has unswervingly pursued this policy with a view to allowing all friends throughout the world to witness profound changes in Laos, thus benefitting relations and cooperation with all countries in the world in the new era of peace and development.

H.E. Phoun Sipaseut pledged to (?strengthen cooperation in many fields with France) especially [words indistinct] to discuss a cooperation plan between the two countries and voiced support to [words indistinct]. H.E. Roland Dumas informed H.E. Phoun Sipaseut of the situation in Cambodia after his visits to that country and the SRV. The two dignitaries expressed unanimous views on the settlement of the Cambodian problem. They noted that progress has been made because all the Cambodian factions have aspired to bring about national reconciliation. The two personages expressed confidence that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has the capability to reconcile all the Cambodian factions. Nevertheless, should the situation in Cambodia change and (?a confusion arise), they fully believed that the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia would hold aloft its role and render full cooperation with the United Nations Organization and all friendly countries concerned in order to avoid the emergence of any internal conflicts.

On the morning of the same day, H.E. Roland Dumas paid courtesy calls on H.E. LPDR President Kaysone Phomvihan at the Presidential Office and on H.E. LPDR Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon respectively. During the calls, H.E. Kaysone Phomvihan and H.E. Khamtai Siphandon expressed their particular happiness on the friendship visit to Laos by H.E. Roland Dumas and his entourage, noting that this visit constituted an important factor in the strengthening of the long-standing friendly relations between the two countries.

On the afternoon of the same day, H.E. Roland Dumas and his party left Vientiane by a special plane to Luang Prabang Province to visit some cultural and production foundations in that province. At 20000 on the same evening, H.E. Roland Dumas was scheduled to depart for home after a 12-hour visit to the LPDR.

Kaysone Phomvihan Addresses Francophone Summit

BK2611120391 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 26 Nov 91

["President Kaysone Phomvihan on French-Speaking Countries' Summit"—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 26 (KPL)—President Kaysone Phomvihan of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic

Republic], addressing the 4th summit of French-speaking countries in Paris, France, said the 4th summit was convened at the time when the world situation was undergoing a profound evolution. The atmosphere of discussions at the session was favourable for solving some important international issues. The new developed cooperation and the hope of mankind to see the world without nuclear threat were taking form.

However, he said, there were still numerous issues of concern and many important issues remaining unsolved, such as poverty, backwardness, famine, and epidemics which require that the international community take an active part in solving them. To ensure world peace, stability and happiness for the people, a new world order had to be established on the basis of equal participation of member countries of the United Nations, he added.

In fact, the importance of the gathering was not just at the use of the same language. Either from rich or poor, industrialised or developing countries, French-speaking countries' participants from the 5 continents were equal partners having the same intention to contribute to better relations, for the purpose of determining overall measures, and functioning with a practical result in the interest of building a joint model for North-South relations and productive relations and cooperation, Kaysone Phomvihan said.

The Lao PDR since the initial stage has attached great importance to the concept of interdependence, solidarity, and cooperation imbued in the French-speaking community, he said.

In his address the Lao president also spoke of the national policy of renovation in economic structure and management mechanism with a market-oriented economy and open relations with foreign countries. He touched on the promulgated constitution and different laws of the Lao PDR. All these policies are designed to improve the country's state from that of a least-developed state to the better well-being of the people. Based on that spirit, the Lao people have made all their best to promote friendship with nations through a foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and cooperation with all countries irrespective of sociopolitical systems, on the respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and on mutual respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and on mutual benefit. [sentence as received]

On the relations with France, he said, his visit to France two years ago marked a new important step in Lao-French relations and cooperation, adding that in recent visit several bilateral agreements on technical scientific and cultural cooperation were signed.

Through these agreements and with French assistance, it was beleived that French which was neglected for some time will return, the president said, stressing that the French-speaking countries' future depended on their large participation in the task that has prompted them to gather in the 4th summit and in the common intention to meet the great challenges in development and modernisation lying ahead of them.

The popularity of the language depended on its applicability. That is why making French a factor for scientific advance and socioeconomic development and a communication instrument serving cultural contacts and mutual approaches among the nations means making it a new forum of solidarity and wealth of nations, both the north and the south.

French Aid to Laos in Last 10 Years Reviewed

BK2611104391 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1330 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Feature: "French Aid to Laos Over the Past 10 Years"]

[Text] French aid to Laos, mostly for training of Lao personnel, has been increased annually. For example, the aid totalled 3 million francs in 1989, compared with 11 million and 17 million francs in 1990 and 1991 respectively. French aid in 1991 is expected to total 18 million francs. The aid has been distributed to different Lao agencies, including offices under the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Finance for the training of accountants and tax and insurance officials.

Land survey projects, French language classes in many schools, the training of French language teachers, the education of engineers at the National Polytechnical Institute, and training of high-level cadres and court officials are also sponsored by France. In addition, the School of Administration and Management has been established with French aid to educate and train heads of enterprises. France also helps Laos conduct research and study in tropical agriculture and cultivation of cotton and coffee.

The French Foreign Ministry has signed a contract under which France will provide aid for the training of Lao medical cadres, diplomats, and legal experts. Besides the aforementioned projects, the Alliance Francaise association will set up a branch in Vientiane. The governments of the two countries are currently holding negotiations on aid for the renovation of Laos' national education system, and for construction and installation of equipment that will enable Lao television to receive French international programs.

In the fields of economy and finance, a memorandum was signed in late 1988 to allocate 6 million francs for the installation of a radio communications link between Vientiane and Paksan and a feasibility study for the construction of Nam Ngiap hydroelectric dam. The second memorandum signed in late 1990 provided 13.88 million francs for continuation of the Vientiane-Paksan radio communications link project, operation of Laos' electronic training center, and a feasibility study for the construction of Nam Ngiap hydroelectric dam, and 11 million francs for establishment of a radio communications link between Luang Prabang and Oudomsai Provinces.

The memorandum for 1991 is being worked out and will be signed in Paris before the end of the year. Eleven million francs will be allocated for a number of projects in Laos. Aid in the form of supplies of aviation equipment will be included in the memorandum for 1992.

Australian Trade Minister Arrives for Visit

Meets With Prime Minister

BK2211112291 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 22 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 22 (KPL)—The Hon Dr. Neal Blewett, MP [as received] minister for trade and overseas development of Australia this morning has led his delegation to officially visit Laos.

Upon arriving at the Tha Deua river port (Lao-Thai border), the Australian minister of trade and overseas development was welcomed by Mr. Thongloun Sisoulit, Lao deputy foreign minister.

Immediately after his arrival, the Australian minister paid a courtesy visit to the Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon.

The delegation is to visit Luang Prabang this afternoon and on Sunday 24th of November, the Hon Dr. Neal Blewett will head the Australian side at the ceremony of foundation stone laying marking the beginning of the construction of the first Mekong bridge.

The bridge called "friendship bridge" is built with Australian government's aid.

Announces Aid to Flood Victims

BK2611140891 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 26 (KPL)—Australia will provide USD [U.S. dollars] 500,000 for emergency assistance for flood affected areas in Laos, the minister for trade and overseas development, Dr. Neal Blewett, announced yesterday in Vientiane.

The USD 500,000.00 will be used to provide glutinous rice for emergency needs in the southern provinces.

"Drought at the beginning rainy season prevented planting in some areas of Laos" Dr. Blewett said.

These losses were exacerbated by pest infestations and cyclone which caused severe flooding in the southern provinces of Laos.

Over 300,000 people were affected by the flooding in Khammouane, Savannakhet and Champassak Provinces.

The fund will be channelled through the world food program.

This assistance is in addition to Australia's bilateral development cooperation program with Laos, which will amount to about USD 8.5 million this financial year.

Australian emergency assistance to Laos is part of the Australian development cooperation administered by the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB).

Meeting on Australian Cooperation, Aid Held

BK2611140291 Vientiane KPL in English 0936 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 26 (KPL)—The annual intergovernmental session on economic cooperation between Laos and Australia was held here on Nov 25.

The meeting was attended by Ms. Khempheng Phonsena, deputy minister of external economic relations of Laos and Mr. Tim Terrell, deputy director general of the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB), and the Australian Ambassador to Laos Mr. Michael Mann.

The meeting assessed that the Lao-Australian cooperation and the Australian assistance to Laos in the past bore fruits and were instrumental for socio-economic development in Laos.

The discussion also dealt on the construction of the friendship bridge across the Mekong River and future Australian assistance in the long-term development of communication, education, public health, rural development and agriculture sectors.

Phoun Sipaseut Congratulates Shevardnadze

BK2711094191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Nov 91

["Recent" congratulatory message from Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze]

[Text] On your reappointment as USSR foreign minister, I extend my sincere congratulations to Your Excellency on behalf of the LPDR Foreign Ministry and in my own name. I firmly believe the cooperation between the Governments and peoples of Laos and the Soviet Union will be further strengthened and continuously developed for the common interests of the peoples and for peace and international cooperation.

I wish Your Excellency good health and success in your duty.

Instructions Issued for National Day Celebration

BK2711104991 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Instructions issued by Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon on the organization of the 16th anniversary celebration of the 2 December national day to all services, provinces, and Vientiane Municipality—dated 23 November]

[Text] The 16th anniversary of the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] on 2 December 1991 comes as the entire party, army, and multiethnic Lao people are concentrating their efforts and wisdom on implementing the 5th party congress resolutions and on studying and organizing the application of the first LPDR Constitution. This also comes when this year's main rice farming season has been severely damaged by natural calamities and as the world changes rapidly and in a complicated manner.

The national day celebration is, therefore, aimed at fulfiling the following objectives: to enable the entire party, army, and multiethnic Lao people to understand their achievements and victories of the past year in fulfilling the two tasks of defending and building the country. It is also to make them understand the weaknesses, remaining problems, and shortcomings which must be rectified and resolved in order for the renovation to attain some success in the coming year; to clearly understand the cunning and notorious tricks of the enemies in waging a war of peaceful change to subvert our country in all fields; and to urge our people to hold aloft a sense of vigilance toward the enemies' design of peaceful change in the new period and to securely maintain peace, public order, and territorial integrity.

This year's national day celebration must be held in a simple manner. Attention must be paid to its meaning. Thrift, unity, public order, and unity in ideological and practical deeds as well as public security and tranquillity within their respective services and localities must be ensured.

Some Fundamental Tasks To Be Urgently Fulfilled

Relying on the party's lines and policy of the 5th party congress, the Constitution and laws endorsed by the party, and the direction of work and duties of the past year, all services, localities, provinces, districts, villages, units, brigades, factories, workshops, schools, and hospitals are instructed to prepare reviews on their past year's all-round achievements. They must point out their actual achievements in these reviews, the new factors which must be promoted, weaknesses, remaining problems, and shortcomings which must be rectified and resolved. At the same time, they must define a new direction for their duties and implement it appropriately. These reviews will become important all-round political documents aimed at carrying out their respective political duties and maintaining a sense of vigilance in fulfilling the national defense and public security maintenance work in the new situation.

Movements must be launched to attain achievement to welcome the historic day with the emphasis placed on the following areas:

Internal security must be maintained, the enemies' peaceful change resisted, and the main season rice harvested in a timely manner with minimal losses. Materials and equipment must be prepared, as are other factors in order to carry out dry season rice farming and crop cultivation to its fullest extent to resolve the aftermath of the recent natural calamities.

All factories, workshops, production units, and business enterprises belonging to the state, the collective, and private interests must compete with one another in business production efficiently. They must observe state laws and regulations and fulfill the budget obligations in full and in a timely manner.

State employees, soldiers, and policemen must compete with one another in fulfilling their specialized duties efficiently and ensure that they carry out their work strictly. During the national day celebration, the various provinces and services at all levels must plan to visit and chat with the people of all strata, especially retirees, senior citizens, intellectuals, the families of those who have sacrificed their lives and have done virtuous deeds for the revolution, and those hospitalized.

The mass media must launch propaganda campaigns on the traditions of our revolution, achievements of the services, localities, units, and outstanding persons in 1991 extensively. At the same time, they must solemnly conduct a criticism and comment on the various weak points and shortcomings to promote unity among the people.

The Method of Organizing the Implementation

After receiving this instruction, the party committees at all levels and all services must urgently study its contents to grasp its spirit. Then, a detailed plan must be worked out in conformity with the reality in each locality for effective implementation. They must be responsible for guiding the organization of the implementation.

In organizing the celebration of the national day this year, no meeting will be held at the center. As for the countryside and services, they must be realistic in organizing meetings.

The slogans for the 2 December national day are as follows:

1. Be determined to translate the renovation line of the party and state to reality in order to march forward to win yet greater victories!
2. Long live the LPDR!
3. Long live the Lao People's Revolutionary Party!
4. Long live the spirit of the 2 December national day.

Quarterly Science Magazine Put Into Circulation

BK2711043091 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 14 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, November 14 (KPL)—To meet social demand for information on technical science, the Ministry of Science and Technology has published a quarterly magazine: "Technical Science Magazine," the first issue of which was introduced to the public at a ceremony held at the ministry yesterday afternoon.

The magazine is to provide information on progress in scientific research and development in the country and to introduce known techniques and technologies in other countries found suitable for application in the country.

In addition, it will be a forum where local scientists, businessmen, and administrators at different levels can recommend ideas on the application of science and the transfer of technologies for general development.

Philippines

Spokesman Cites Condition of Clark Air Base

HK2711104691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] The United States Government did not conduct any cleaning operations at Clark Air Base after the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo. This was disclosed by Colonel Sigundo Dimapilis, Philippine Air Force spokesman, in an interview with DZRH. According to Dimapilis, the U.S. troops assigned to the military base did not even have the courtesy to clean up the ash, sand and other volcanic debris emitted by Mt. Pinatubo.

Dimapilis also said that although the base was formally turned over to the Philippine Government yesterday, it would remain of no use to the country. However, Dimapilis said that it is now the Philippine Air Force's responsibility to look after the military base and that is exactly what they are going to do until such time that the bases conversion plan is executed.

This was the statement made by Air Force spokesman, Colonel Sigundo Dimapilis:

[Begin recording] [Dimapilis] There has not been any change at Clark since it was destroyed by the Mt. Pinatubo eruption. They did not do anything. As a matter of fact, when we landed there, the dust from the lava on the base operation was still there. You could not even see the helicopters landing. They did not really clean up or even fix the place. So, aside from just securing the camp, the Philippine Air Force will also have to concentrate on cleaning up those areas which can still be cleaned up. [end recording]

Wallace Air Station To Become Industrial Zone

HK2711030391 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 27 Nov 91 pp 1, 5

[By Ma. Liza A. Solano]

[Text] Wallace Air Station will be developed into an industrial zone designed to primarily attract Hong Kong investors. Many businesses in Hong Kong are expected to relocate even before the British colony reverts to the People's Republic of China in 1997.

Trade and industry Undersecretary Gloria M. Arroyo told BUSINESS WORLD that the First Philippine Holdings Corp. (FPHC), which is owned by the Lopezes, will construct its proposed industrial estate either on the airbase or the Bacnotan property, whichever will be available for immediate development. The industrial estate project is a major component of the Regional Industrial Center program for Region I.

FPHC, which is teaming up with the Daewoo Group of Korea, is currently talking with 700 landowners of a 250-hectare property in Bacnotan. As of end-October, a total of 80 hectares, owned by 183 people, are now available for sale.

Ms. Arroyo said the committee created by the President to determine the most viable conversion plan for Wallace Air Station has decided to recommend the development of the area into an industrial center.

The committee is headed by Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, who is the Cabinet officer in charge for the development of Region I. Its members are Governor Joaquin Ortega of La Union and representatives from the Department of National Defense, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and National Economic Development Authority.

Ms. Arroyo said a project definition study on the proposed Poro Industrial Development Area (PIDA) has already been prepared by the provincial government, DTI and the Regional Development Council (RDC).

Ideal Alternative Site

The group envisions the area as ideal alternative site for Hong Kong industries because it is less than an hour away from the colony. It is also near Taiwan, Singapore, Japan and South Korea.

The airbase has an approximate area of 500 acres or 208.21 hectares. This includes the 101-hectare Voice of America, 22.41- hectare area reverted to the Philippine government, and the 84.8- hectare are of the Aircraft Control and Warning System.

The area identified for development will also include the existing area of the base port of San Fernando and adjoining areas in the east and west following the coastline.

The PIDA will be divided into an industrial zone and a port zone.

The first zone will be composed of a residential area for factory employees, commercial area, administration and office buildings, a greenbelt and recreational area and factory space which will constitute 110 hectares to 130 hectares.

The port zone, which will be partly managed by the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), will include the transit area, open and enclosed storage and warehouse facilities, and administration building.

The project study also recommended that a PIDA Authority (PIDAA) be created to manage the industrial zone and port zone. The PIDAA board will be composed of the governor of La Union as chairman, mayor of San Fernando, port manager, industrial zone administrator, and representatives from PIDA companies, DTI, RDC, Central Bank and Bureau of Customs.

Camp Security Tightened Amid Coup Rumors

HK2711090991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 27 Nov 91

[By Francis Calado, DZRH Unit 23]

[Text] The military has tightened security around Camp Aguinaldo including its communications links amid rumors of another coup d'etat. In an interview, Colonel Jaime de los Santos, the official spokesman of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said that the military camp is well secured while they continue their manhunt operation for the remaining 11 officers of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement, especially top rebel leader Gringo Honasan.

The news of a plan to overthrow the Aquino administration became pertinent following the recent armory robbery at Camp Crame.

Nevertheless, De los Santos reiterated that the rebel movement has already been weakened due to the return of some of the rightist rebels to government control, which was led by Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Kapunan. De los Santos also said that the arms robbery by the military rebels was just one of their gimmicks.

Rebel Leader Noble To Seek Political Office

HK2711064191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 27 Nov 91 p HC-6

[By Tony Pe. Rimando from the "Home and Culture" section]

[Text] Agusan Del Norte—Renegade Army Col. Alexander Noble, once the object of a massive military manhunt in northern Mindanao after leading a coup attempt in the region last year, has decided to throw his hat into the local political ring in the coming elections.

Reliable reports reaching here said Noble, now confined in a military maximum security cell at Camp Aguinaldo, would run for governor or congressman in either Agusan del Norte or Agusan del Sur, although he claims he is also eligible to run in Bukidnon or Misamis Oriental.

Noble's move is reportedly with the blessings of Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Lisandro Abadia who allegedly encouraged the former charismatic army officer "to join politics where you might be more useful."

Abadia reportedly informed Noble the whole AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] might even support the latter and the AFP chief, according to Noble, "meant more than moral support."

Noble, who once stormed and occupied without a single shot, the Army's 4th Infantry Division headquarters at Camp Evangelista in Cagayan de Oro City before he surrendered with his followers who included cultural community natives of Agusan, said several northern Mindanao top political leaders, including Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, also urged him to go into politics where he could have "a brighter future."

Many neutral observers here strongly believe that Noble, who is very popular with northern Mindanao cultural tribesmen, could become an effective political leader in the region.

Elections Official Discusses Poll Preparations

HK2711054391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] President Corazon Aquino signed into law the new election code which starts the electoral campaigns for the May 1992 elections. Radio ng Bayan interviewed Comelec [Commission on Elections] Commissioner Heidi Yorac on this matter and was able to get an outline of the Comelec preparations in line with the new election law's signing.

[Begin Yorac recording] The signing of the new election code would mean that Comelec can begin preparing for the coming elections. For example, we could proceed with the bidding process for the supplies and services that will be needed for the election. In fact, before the law was even signed—we were confident that it would be signed—Comelec already scheduled several seminars. In fact, there are several ongoing seminars right now in Zamboanga and Cagayan de Oro. A large part of the seminars will be on value formation for Comelec employees. The seminar will also discuss the new law's special features. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Yorac also said that from 22 January 1992 until the end of the May 1992 elections, the firearms ban will be enforced to ensure orderly and peaceful elections.

[Begin Yorac recording] The new election code has a new feature which will ensure peace during the elections—this would be the firearms ban. The ban will prevent people from taking firearms outside their homes. They may only bring firearms if they have Comelec authorization. Authorization will only be given to Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] and Philippine National Police [PNP] members. In order for the firearms authorization to be valid, AFP and PNP members are required to be in uniform with their names clearly visible; they must be on duty; and their permit must be with them at all times.

This ban will prevent the influx of firearms in public places. [end recording]

Thailand

Leaders Suggest Charter Changes 'Acceptable'

BK2711032191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] Senior interim government members Michai Ruchuphan and Asa Sarasin yesterday suggested separately that changes to the draft charter had now produced an acceptable document.

Deputy Prime Minister Michai said the draft should now be left as is because any contentious points could be amended in Parliament.

Foreign Minister Mr Asa, on the other hand, said the charter was more democratic following the changes and it should be "satisfactory" for the international community.

"I can't speak for foreign nationals though," he said.

Mr Asa also agreed with Mr Michai that MPs could move to make amendments once a new government was formed.

Mr Michai said it was normal for there to be divided opinion on whether the changes to the draft went far enough.

Nothing more can be done with the draft, he said, and its passage now rests with the National Legislative Assembly.

He said the Interior Ministry had already submitted an election bill to Cabinet.

The deputy prime minister said it would be difficult under the present draft charter to prevent businessmen seeking political power from running in the election.

Mr Michai said the people should remain optimistic regarding the powers of the Senate so the country could have an elected government as soon as possible.

Mr Asa denied reports that some countries had boycotted Thailand because of the draft Constitution.

"This is an internal affair."

He said other countries should accept the Thai way of thinking and appreciate that what is being done is for Thailand's own good, for its stability and the holding of early elections.

Mr Asa said he thought recent comments by United States Ambassador David Lambertson referred to the past.

Thailand can stand on its own feet and Thais should stop thinking in terms of economic assistance, he said. They should look to expanding overseas trade, opening new markets and cooperation through more joint investments.

Stressing that "partnership is very important", the minister called for the cooperation of Thailand's trading partners. They should not protect their markets and should give Thailand a chance because the goods produced here are competitively priced.

Mr Asa said he did not think the charter controversy would affect Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's visit to the United States.

Cabinet Accepts Draft Election Bills in Principle

BK2711015991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday accepted in principle the draft election and political party bills proposed by the Interior Ministry.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said the drafts were only accepted in principle as one or two key points stil needed to be studied, in particular a clause pertaining to the election watchdog committee.

The Premier said he had assigned his three deputy prime ministers to study the issue and had instructed the Juridical Council to polish the wording of the two drafts.

Mr Anan said his government wanted a private and impartial mechanism to oversee the election, with particular attention to be paid to ensuring the neutrality of civil servants.

He said it would take four to five days to decide the nature of the mechanism, which would probably be set up by the government or himself.

A free and fair election would require close monitoring by the public and private sectors, the later including students, non-government organisations or memebrs of the public.

Mr Anan said he thought the election could be held in mid-March, but an exact date could only be set after the final passage of the constitution.

The watchdog committee appears to replace the authoritiy once exerted by provincial governors.

The governors used to form local-level committees which are thought to have occasionally taken sides with certain candidates.

Another comittee was set up to determine the maximum expenses allowed for each election candidate.

The election bill calls for an increase from 350,000 baht to 700,000 baht.

Permanent Secretry for the Interior Anan Anantakun said separately he disagreed with the formation of an election watchdog committee as the bureaucracy was in a position to serve this role.

Interior officials provide justice to election candidates, he said, so a national-level mechanism such as the proposed watchdog committee was superfluous.

He said the watchdog committee might make mistakes, and students and private organisations might monitor the election by means other than the watchdog committee.

An informed source said Cabinet had asked the Interior Minstry to review the two drafts together with the Juridical Council and return them for consideration before December 10.

The source suggested that Interior Minste Itsaraphong Nunphakdi's absence from Cabinet meetings for at least three months, including yesterday, might be a reason for the two drafts being rejected.

Gen Itsaraphong assigned Deputy Interior Minster Adm Wichet Karunyawanit to submit the drafts and Local Administration Department deputy director-general Ariya Upalami to explain them to the Cabinet members.

The Cabinet queried why the draft election law required political parties to field a candidate for every available seat.

The law requires a minimum 120 candidates from each party—equal to one third of the total 360 members of parliament. Parties failing to field the minimum number of candidates would be automatically dissolved.

Parties which fail to have any members elected to the Lower House will also face dissolution under the draft bill.

NAP To Launch Anti-Constitution Campaign

BK2711031991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] The New Aspiration Party [NAP] yesterday ordered its members and party branches to launch an all-out campaign against what it still considers to be an "undemocratic and dictatorial" draft Constitution.

Party Secretary-General Prasong Sunsiri, in letters sent to party organisations, administrators and members, explained that though some articles have been amended, the content still remains very much dictatorial.

Senators who are not elected by the people are still empowered to oust the elected government. Even if political parties managed to form a government they would not be able to stay in office. Under this charter the only government that could last would be one which represents those with power. It will not be a government of the people, Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong said.

He said NAP representatives nationwide and its candidates for the general election have adopted the following resolutions in response to the proposed charter now awaiting its third and final reading in the National Legislative Assembly:

—NAP will not accept this draft and fight to the end for a democratic constitution.

—In this fight for democracy the party will adopt peaceful means and cooperate with other political parties, democratic organisations and the people.

—NAP branches and party candidates in the upcoming elections are to explain the drawbacks in the draft charter to the people and tell them that the charter is dictatorial, and was drafted with the sole intention of serving those in places of power.

—They are to recruit new party members and hold rallies and debates in support of democracy during the run-up to the general election.

—They are to collaborate with other democratic organisations in opposing the draft charter.

Palang Tham Party Continues To Reject Charter

BK2711030791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] Phalang Tham Party [PTP] will continue to campaign for the rejection of the draft charter in its third reading, party leader Maj-Gen Chamlong Simuang said yesterday.

Maj-Gen Chamlong repeated his opposition to the draft, saying that the method of selecting senators and their power to overthrow the government through a no-confidence motion are undemocratic.

"With the NPKC [National Peacekeeping Council] being empowered to appoint 270 senators, it can overthrow the government at any time. This means the government after the election must be formed only with NPKC approval and it can survive only when the NPKC is satisfied with it," the Bangkok governor said.

He said it is not possible for any political party to get as many as 270 MPs to counterbalance the senators.

"It is not that we want more concessions. In fact, they (the NPKC) have given nothing to us," Maj-Gen Chamlong said.

He said there is still a way to fight peacefully for the draft charter to be killed in the third reading.

Asked what would be done to achieve this goal, he said the PTP and the Campaign for Popular Democracy will together take measures to urge the National Legislative Assembly [NLA] to kill the draft charter.

On suggestions that the constitution can be amended after the election, Maj-Gen Chamlong said it had been learned in the past that constitutional amendments were difficult.

When told that many people were afraid the conflict would escalate, Maj-Gen Chamlong said: "This is fear. We cannot attain democracy out of fear. People who are afraid must be under a dictatorial rule."

He said he would submit a letter, signed by over 1,000 supporters, to NLA chairman Ukrit Mongkhonnawin today.

TV Station Suspends Political Debate Program

BK2711031591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Nov 91 p A1

[Text] Government-run TV Channel 11, apparently under pressure from the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC], has suspended indefinitely its popular political debate program, Mong Tang Mum, following strong criticism made by some of its guest speakers against the military and the controversial draft constitution.

Anchorman Choemsak Pinthong said yesterday he believed Mong Tang Mum (Looking from Different Perspectives) was banned because the programme had dealt with the draft constitution, described by many as "undemocratic", in its preceding two shows.

"It's a shame. The five-month-old program was enjoying growing popularity among the public," Choesak said. "It was good to see members of the audience expressing satisfaction with the lively exchange of views, as if they were enjoying the taste of true democracy."

He said he was told by Channel 11 director Wichit Wutthi-amphon on Monday that the political talk show program would be discontinued. He said no reasons were provided with the verbal announcement.

Choemsak, a lecturer at Thammasat University's Faculty of Political Science, said he had intended to make Mong Tan Mum an alternative political debate program and to try to widen the scope of freedom of the electronic media to the level currently enjoyed by the press.

"I hope a program like this can be revived after we have a democratically-elected government," he said.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, asked to comment on the ban, said yesterday he was not aware of such an order.

"I did not order the ban. The program will continue. I still support it," the prime minister said.

Meanwhile, Wichit told THE NATION yesterday the program in question was suspended because lately it had "tended to concentrate on certain subjects which deprived the viewers of in-depth knowledge of the whole picture."

The director said the one-hour time slot previously occupied by the political talk show would be replaced by a similar program featuring experts on various fields, such as discussions on Aids and the value-added tax (VAT).

Sources at Channel 11 said two military officers from the National Peacekeeping Council had appeared at Channel 11 headquarters and demanded two copies of last Sunday's show.

Last Sunday's guest speakers, including former Prachakon Thai MP Lalita Roeksamran and Khunying Yupha Udomsak, made strong critical remarks against the military council for alleged interference in the constitution-drafting process. The speakers also, on several occasions, described the military council as "dictatorial".

Military To Block Forced Refugee Repatriation

BK2711023791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Nov 91 p A2

[By Korkhet Chanthaluetlak]

[Text] The military yesterday said it would black any attempt outside the framework of the United Nations High Commissioner for Reflugees (UNHCR) to force Cambodian refugees to return home against their will.

It was the first public assurance by the military after it came under fire from Western media for ignoring the forced repatriation by the Khmer Rouge of Cambodian reflugees from Site 8 in border town of Aranyaprathet.

Seksan Niwatsanon, a military officer who handled the repatriation, told a press conference that the Supreme Command has instructed the Displaced persons protection Unit (DPPU) to block the forcible repatriation of Cambodian refugees and stop any returning of their own accord without UNHCR knowledge.

According to a UNHCR report on the registration of returnees, 60 per cent of the 350,000 refugees living in resistance-controlled camps at Site 2, Site 8, Site B and O-Trao on the Thai border would prefer to go to Battambang province. Most of this territory was in control of resistance guerrillas fighting to oust the Phnom Penh government. The report said 15 percent of the population wanted to return to Banteay meanchea, five percent to Siem Reap, four percent to Phnom Penh and the rest to other areas.

Under a memorandum of understanding on the repatriation of Cambodian refugees signed by UNHCR, Thailand and Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) last week in Phnom Penh, voluntary repatriation would end once the political situation in Cambodia had stabilised, allowing for the repatriation of those who were reluctant to go back.

However, another military source said Cambodian returnees who have sought political asylum with the UNHCR could be exempted from repatriation. They would be allowed to stay along the same lines as Thailand allows for Burmese seeking poliatical asylum, but they would eventually leave Thailand, according to the source.

The Burmese dissidents seeking refuge in Thailand are soon to be moved to a camp in Ratchaburi, to be opened in April, pending resettlement in a third country.

Interior Minister Receives PRC Labor Minister

BK2611091991 Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese 26 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] Chinese Labor Minister Ruan Chongwu paid a courtesy call on Interior Minister General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi at the Interior Ministry at 1000 on 25 November. They exchanged views on issues of mutual concern. The Chinese labor minister is leading a delegation to attend the International Labor Organization's 11 Asian Regional Conference to be held at the Sirikit National Convention Center.

Other Thai officials present at the meeting were Anan Anantakun, permanent secretary for the Interior Ministry, as well as the director general and the deputy director general of the Labor Department.

At 1400 on the same day, the Chinese labor minister led his delegation to visit the Labor Department's Institute for Skill Development to observe its skill training center for youths. Minister Ruan Chongwu and his delegation were interested in the training operations of the center.

AIDS-Infected Persons No Longer Denied Entry

BK2711074091 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] The Cabinet at its meeting yesterday endorsed the interior ministerial decree to be attached to the Immigration Act deleting AIDS from the list of forbidden diseases.

AIDS has been added to the list in accordance with the interior ministerial Decree No. 11 in 1986. However, with more information about the disease available at present, it has become clear that detection of AIDS cannot be done effectively and that contraction of the disease is not possible through other means than sexual intercourse and blood transfusion.

The lifting of the ban on AIDS-infected persons is in accordance with international practices and will benefit the country in the long run, with foreign assistance expected to pour in to help Thailand deal with AIDS problems.

Official on Regional Financial Center Development

BK2511030791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Nov 91 p 15, 23

[Text] Thailand has prepared and implemented a wide-ranging programme of financial reform aimed at boosting savings to support future growth, enhancing the ability of the financial sector to compete in international markets and ultimately to promote Thailand as a regional financial centre, a senior central banker said.

Speaking yesterday at the opening of a three-day ASEAN Banking Council seminar in Chiang Mai, Bank of Thailand Assistant Governor Charung Nukhwan said that in the past decade financial-reform measures had been implemented primarily in response to specific problems, rather than as part of an overall reform strategy.

But by the end of the 1980s, as Thailand's growth and industrialisation accelerated, a more comprehensive approach to maintain growth potential with stability was needed.

And with the dramatic changes on the international scene, induced by the creation of the Single European Market, the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations, the developments in Germany, eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, as well as the future of Hong Kong, substantial adjustments to Thailand's financial structure were needed.

Since the late 1980s, financial regulations gradually had been relaxed to promote savings and create greater flexibility in commercial banks' fund management. Interest rates had been partially floated.

In June 1989, the long-standing ceiling on deposits of more than one year was lifted, and the removal of the ceiling on all deposits followed in March, 1990.

But commercial banks' response to the relaxation led to undesirable competion. A price war on deposits consequently led to suffering with regards to profitability.

"With more competition from foreign financial institutions coming into view, we would like to see our local banks strengthen themselves and compete in a more constructive way," Mr Charung said. "That is competition that leads to lower costs, improved banking services and a wider spectrum of financial products."

In the next step of interest rate liberalisation, the ceiling on savings deposits would be eliminated, and the removal of restrictions on lending interest rates was being contemplated.

Regarding foreign-exchange deregulation, in May, 1990, the authorities accepted the obligations of Article VIII of the International Monetary Fund's Articles of Agreement. This meant Thailand would not impose restrictions on payments and transfers in current account transactions, nor would it engage in discriminatory currency practices.

Simultaneously, the Bank of Thailand also began the first phase of foreign-exchange deregulation, permitting commercial banks to approve exchange transactions relating to trading activities without seeking prior approval from the authorities.

The second phase of deregulation, concentrating on capital-account transactions, followed in April, 1991. The deregulation abolished practically all exchange control forms.

Foreign exchange earners now were allowed to open foreign- exchange accounts with commercial banks of up to US$500,000 for individuals and US$5 million abroad for direct investment.

Repatriation of investment funds, including dividends and loan repayments, also was free. The remaining restrictions applied to residents' purchases of property, financial instruments and equity abroad. The two phases of deregulation and greatly helped promote trade and services business.

Commercial banks had been allowed to expand their nationwide branch networks more freely and the Bank of Thailand had relaxed regulations on commercial banks' allocation of resources.

Mr Charung said the key measure in liberalising banks' portfolio and assets management was to switch from controlled prices and directed lending schemes to a more market-oriented system, including the elimination of some export-financing subsidies.

He said that following the results of negotiations in trade in financial services in the Uruguay Round of GATT talks, entry of new foreign banks was likely to be opened.

"In this regard I would like to mention the roles of branches of foreign banks in Thailand. They have been very active in the recent growth of our economy. However, certain foreign banks have concentrated their support toward their national businesses," he said.

"We would like to suggest that it would be mutually beneficial for both foreign banks and the host country if foreign banks would play a more active role in channelling support to Thai enterprises.

"Lending to local companies can be lucrative and have great potential. In the process, foreign banks can overcome the obstacles by delegating more authority to their Thais staff."

On the supervision side, the authorities sought to strengthen domestic financial institutions, to cope with future challenges and competition in the international financial scene.

At present, changes were on the way for the intensification of prudential regulations, particularly the redefinition of capital funds in line with the recommendation of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

The capital to risk assets and to contingent liabilities ratios at present were 8 percent and 25 percent, respectively.

Only tier 1 capital was accepted and asset risk weighting was either 0 percent or 100 percent. The ratios should be combined and brought into line with levels and definitions recommended by the Bank for Internatioanl Settlements. Mergers of financial institutions also was encouraged to consolidate and strengthen domestic financial institutions.

Authorities had sought to encourage the development of financial instruments and financial services. As essential components of the financial market, financial instruments and services could serve as policy tools for the implementation of monetary policy, as well as a means for businesses to adjust their liquidity position.

Where reform in the capital market was concerned, notwithstanding the rapid development of the stock market that had attracted many offshore and onshore country funds, the debit instrument market still was underdeveloped.

The authorities planned to promote the development of new financial instruments through measures in four main areas.

The legal barriers to the issuance of debt instruments and the transaction tax on secondary tax trading of financial instruments would be eliminated.

—The elimination of the government bond holding requirement for branch opening would help develop secondary markets of government bonds.

—Private companies would be encouraged to directly issue debit instruments to the public with the help of commercial banks, financial companies and securities companies, after instituting appropriate prudential safeguards.

—The establishment of a credit-rating agency was being considered.

The new capital market legislation now was in the Parliamentary process. The proposed Bill would set up a separate and independent institution along the lines of British Securities Investment Board (SIB).

Its functions would be to supervise the public offering of both equity and debit instruments, to supervise the stock market, and to oversee the whole securities industry.

The establishment of an independent body with comprehensive authority would facilitate the supervision of both primary and secondary trading.

Mr Charung also said the development of personnel to cope with new businesses and their associated risks, as well as the improvement of basic infrastructure, particularly the telecommunications system, was necessary to increase the efficiency of the financial system.

The Bank of Thailand would install and electronic large-scale fund transfer system and network to enable commerical banks to monitor and transfer funds in their accounts at the Bank of Thailand on a real-time basis.

This setup also would be used for the bidding and transfer of government bonds, as well as to transmit financial reports to the Bank of Thailand. As for retail fund transfer, commercial banks were encouraged to provide a more sophisticated fund-transfer service.

The Bank of Thailand also planned to help commercial banks enhance cheque-handling efficiency by the use of an electronic cheque-clearing system. The wider use of credit cards also was encouraged, with cautious supervision, to ensure the highest benefit for customers.

"However, I would like to say that in a liberalised financial environment, it is vital that financial institutions be extra cautious in their risk management," Mr Charung said.

Vietnam

VNA Reports Vo Van Kiet, Dumas Meeting 25 Nov

BK2611153991 Hanoi VNA in English 0614 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 25—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet received here this afternoon visiting French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and his party.

The chairman expressed his satisfaction at the fine development of the Franco-Vietnamese friendship and cooperation. He thanked the French Government and people for their precious assistance to Vietnam in national construction and France's continued efforts to help Vietnam establish and strengthen its relations with the EEC, normalize its relations with international financial organizations, and increase its relations with the organization of the French-speaking countries.

He said that in the new situation the friendship and cooperation between the two countries occupy an even more important position and they should be promoted to a higher level in the interests of each country and in conformity with the present trend in the region and in the world. He said that Vietnam is in the process of shaping a market-oriented economy, hence difficulties are unavoidable. That is why mutual understanding is necessary and both sides should persist in their cooperation. He expressed the hope that Mr. Dumas's visit would contribute to strenthening the traditional relations between the two countries.

Mr. Dumas informed Chairman Vo Van Kiet of the results of the talks between the French and Vietnamese delegations, and reiterated the determination of the French Government to strengthen its friendship and cooperation with Vietnam in the interests of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

The two sides highly valued Franco-Vietnamese cooperation in the search for a political solution to the Cambodia issue as well as in guaranteeing a peaceful, independent, and neutral Cambodia.

The minister conveyed Prime Minister Edith Cresson's invitation to Chairman Vo Van Kiet to pay an official visit to France. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

After the reception, Chairman Vo Van Kiet met with 22 representatives of major French companies accompanying Minister Dumas who have either invested or are willing to invest in Vietnam. Chairman Vo Van Kiet briefed the guests about Vietnam's policy to encourage foreign investment, and answered questions raised by French investors.

Present at both meetings were Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, and French Ambassador Claude Blanchemaison.

Commentary Views 'Recent Developments' in USSR

BK2111041791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Station commentary: "Recent Developments in the Soviet Union"]

[Text] The situation in the Soviet Union continues to be tense and complicated. According to leading experts of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the Soviet Union is about to reap a very poor harvest soon, with a meager output of 160,000 tons [figure as heard]. The federal budget is now threatened with a record deficit which is almost twice federal revenues and extra-budgetary funds put together. In Moscow food supply is critical and the government is contemplatinbg ways to apply the food stamp system on a number of essentials such as meat, butter and sugar.

A high ranking Soviet official, Mr Yakovlev, member of the Consultative Political Council under the Soviet president, told American businessmen in New York that the grain situation and food supply in the Soviet Union can lead to a new social chaos threatening the collapse of everything that has been achieved in the process of perestroyka. He also predicted that in the coming months the Soviet Union will undergo complete upheaval because the federal leadership has made terrible blunders by breaking the old economic mechanism while failing to create in reality the structures of a new market mechanism. Mr Yakovlev also noted that so far the West has remained an outside observer.

The communists, for their part, have regrouped in a number of political organizations to continue the struggle to rally force. The recent months have seen the congress for the foundation of an all-federation Bolshevik Communist party in St. Petersburg. At this Comrade Professor Andreyeva was elected general secretary of the party, the first woman in the country to hold that post.

During the same period under review the congress for the setting up of the Worker-Peasant Party was held in Byelorussia Soviet Republic, and on 16-17 November Moscow saw the setting up of the League of Communists at the conference attended by delegates from party organizations from Russia, Ukrainia, Tadzhikstan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Estonia, Moldavia and several other republics. The delegates approved of the united nations [as heard] to be taken by the communists to ward off attacks on the vital interests of the working people and against human rights violations. They pointed out that the ban on the communist party is one of the many examples of crude violation of the federal law and constiutution. The conference adopted a manifesto and an appeal for the setting up of a nationwide movement involving broad sections of the population and an anti-fascist front. It also decided to send a delegation to the congress of communists scheduled to open in Ekatarinburg on 23 November.

It is also important to note the continued wave of public protest in Moscow as well as a number of Soviet republics against the attempts to remove the remains of Lenin from his mausoleum.

The Soviet leadership are taking many measures to free the country from this crisis including the effort to set up the union of sovereign republics. At the recent meeting of the Soviet State Council, the union treaty was agreed upon in principle. According to this treaty, the current USSR will be changed into the Union of Soviet Republics with Mr Silayev as Soviet prime minister. The appointment has been winning public support. Public opinion in the Soviet Union and all friends of the Soviet Union hope that the inter-republic economic committee chaired by him will gradually free the country from the current economic crisis, at least in the economic field.

Paper Raises Question of Socialist Survival

BK2611063391 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 29 Oct 91 p 1

[Unattributed article: "Answering a Big Question"]

[Text] The fifth second-round congress of the Ho Chi Minh City party organization has successfully concluded.

An achievement of great and profound ideological and political significance was that the congress looked directly at realities, raised the most important issues of the situation, and definitively asserted its attitude of high militancy.

This can be seen very neatly and very prominently in the political report and the summary of views debated which were presented by Vo Tran Chi and the city party committee secretary, in the letter sent to the party Central Committee by the congress, and in the various addresses of Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi and Comrade adviser Nguyen Van Linh.

The following major question was raised: Socialism in the world is going through a comprehensive and profound crisis and has incurrred heavy losses. Hostile forces are stepping up their offensive to wipe out socialism. Will our country be able to remain stable and continually develop along the socialist line?

This question has caused people to anxiously toss and turn quite a lot in an effort to find an answer. All those who love their country and people cannot help but ponder this and will continue to ponder it in order to find out the truth in a conscious manner.

With all the thought and quintessence condensed in the various documents of the seventh party congress, which was specifically carried on in the various documents of the fifth second-round congress of the city party organization, we assert that our country will certainly stand firm and develop along the socialist line.

Here is the reason for this:

After a few long decades of combat, the steel-like will and the earnest aspiration of all our people is to maintain stability in order to build the country and bring about happiness for them and their children. History has revealed a fact of binding nature: Our people have always built and defended their country mainly on their own. Our people and not outside forces are those who decide whether our country can stand firm and develop.

For two years now, we have faced new ordeals. The world situation remains complex. Sources of aid no longer exist. After 1990 and 1991, we will still be able to firmly maintain our production and life with some excess grain for export. The important point is that we have drawn our initial experience in doing business in the new situation.

The guidelines, steps, and working methods that were set forth by the sixth party congress were correct and enthusiastically implemented by all our party members and people with some initial and very important results. Facts have shown that we can firmly maintain stability in order to continually renovate, develop, and create ever better stability.

The national independent and socialist line that we have persisted in thus far totally conforms with the evolutionary law of mankind. Although the revolution has endured its ups and downs and its fierce and hard ordeals with temporary setbacks and defeats, it will certainly triumph. We, of course, have to establish new concepts on socialism and correctly define socialist models in the real interests of freedom and happiness of the people.

The linchpin of the problem is to answer the aforementioned question by practical work.

Party Secretary General Do Muoi at the city party organization congress said: "That we can stand firm and stable and develop is decided by all our party members, people, and troops, by all-level party organizations and members who make extraordinary efforts to contribute to the common cause."

As a result, the big question related to the country's fate is raised for every party member and each Vietnamese patriot, and first of all, for each of us here to answer.

Bringing into play the spirit of the seventh national party congress and the fifth second-round congress of the city party organization, subsequent congresses of party organizations at all levels should concentrate their enthusiasm and wisdom on finding a specific answer to the aforementioned paramount question within their sphere of responsibility and in a correct and practical manner.

Do Muoi Speech at Hanoi Party Congress 16 Nov

BK1811155391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 Nov 91

[First of four installments of speech by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, opening session of the 11th second-round congress of the Hanoi party organization on 16 November—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed presidium, dear comrade delegates and veteran revolutionaries: On behalf of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, I warmly welcome delegates attending the 11th second-round congress of the Hanoi party organization. Through you comrades, I convey the party Central Committee's kind regards to all cadres, party members, and people of the capital [applause].

In implementing resolutions of the Sixth CPV Congress and the 10th congress of the Hanoi party organization during the past five years in the new situation, the Hanoi party organization, army, and people have scored initial yet very important achievements despite numerous difficulties and complexities.

Thanks to the implementation of renovation, the political situation in the capital has stabilized, thus creating favorable conditions for renovating the socioeconomy. The multicomponent commodity-based economy has been developed. Production and business have improved, communications and transportation made more efficient, markets expanded, and goods have been produced in diversified forms, thereby creating favorable conditions for improving the people's daily life and production and greatly contributing to stabilizing the political situation. The management mechanism has taken a remarkable step forward. Saddled with many vestiges of the old, Hanoi now has basically shifted to the multicomponent commodity-based economy which is functioning in accordance with the market-oriented system under state management. Various economic units have developed their right to autonomy, applied business accounting, and combined production with the market. The system of using stamps and coupons to buy commodities has been abolished and the shortage of food and essential consumer goods experienced in the past exists no more. The daily life of people in the capital has obviously improved. Although there still are shortcomings and weaknesses in the education, economic, cultural, and social domains, efforts have been made to overcome them. There has been encouraging achievements especially in education. Illiteracy has been eliminated throughout the country and primary education is being universalized.

While these positive changes have been achieved, socialist democracy has continually been promoted. The democratic activities of the party, mass organizations, state agencies, and the people have also been encouraged. The atmosphere of openess remained prevalent while people of various strata have enthusiastically participated in implementing the renovation.

I would like to mention here that you comrades have made great efforts in building the party in the new situation, especially your participation in the movement to purify the party and enhance its competitiveness, ensure unity to firmly cope with all ordeals, and in consolidating the capital party organization's leadership.

The achievements of the Hanoi party organization, army, and people are good news for people throughout the country. They are the results of the comrades' correct implementation of the renovative lines of the Sixth CPV Congress, the great efforts of the capital party organization, army, and people; the guidance of the party Central Committee and the government, the contributions of the central branches and sectors, and the cooperation and assistance of the provinces and cities throughout the country.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, I highly commend the efforts and fighting spirit of the capital party organization and people, the party Central Committee, the government, and compatriots throughout the country. I hope Hanoi will strive for ever greater achievements in the days ahead. [applause]

Despite these initial achievements, many aspects of Hanoi's situation have not met the aspirations of the city's residents and compatriots throughout the country. They are not on par with the municipality's great material potential and its large contingent of intelligentsia and skilled workers. Its economy has grown slowly, especially in industry and export. Although trade and services have developed rapidly, their management is poor while negativism has not been effectively opposed.

Many aspects of education, public health, and culture have deteriorated. A large number of wage earners, retirees, and those on social welfare assistance are facing difficulties in their daily lives.

The rate of unemployment is still high, social vices and crimes are on the increase, while social order and safety have not been ensured and corruption is prevalent. The healthy life of the Thang Long Land and the nationalist spirit have been eroded while the natural image of the capital's society is deteriorating, and this is not consistent with the position and the tradition of the capital city. Echelons of the administration would not make serious efforts to enforce the law. The management of the municipality was weak in many respects, and many party organizations at wards, villages, enterprises, and agencies failed to develop their leadership role and enhance their capability in production. This situation was due partly to the weak material-technical bases of the capital, especially its poor infrastructure and the backward equipment used by many establishments and enterprises. At the same time, investment is very small and the management mechanism is scattered, thereby leading to disintegration and wastefulness. Moreover, orientations for the renovation have not been clearly defined; policies to encourage thriftiness and saving for investment in production, trade, and services have not been promptly formulated; while housing projects are disorganized and inconsistent with the plan. As a result, the capital has not been able to develop its great potential and exploit the dynamism and creativity of the capital's people to accelerate the renovation undertaking.

The party building task has not been carried out properly, attention has not been given to formulating strategies for socioeconomic stabilization and development as well as for beautifying the capital. Leadership and management work are not decisive, while the contingent of cadres has not been able to catch up with the requirements for the management of the capital in the new situation. I agree in principle with many issues raised in the political report of the Hanoi party organization on the orientations for socioeconomic development of the capital, but I want to emphasize a number of points to contribute more ideas to you comrades as follows.

The formulation of orientations for socioeconomic development must be based on the position, role, and strength of the capital. These orientations must also meet the requirements for accelerating and firmly implementing the renovation undertaking of the nation and the capital city.

Resolution 08 of the fifth party Central Committee Political Bureau very correctly indicated that Hanoi is the political, cultural, and technological brain center. At the same time, it is the country's great economic and international commerce center. Hanoi possesses great potential that cannot be found anywhere throughout the country. It is the focus of the machinery of national leadership, management, and research, of the largest number of intellectuals, and scientific cadres of natural science, technology, social science, and so forth. It is also the center of skilled workers and experienced craftsmen. All these constitute a source of extremely valuable assets to support the process of renovation and development. Hanoi is a national capital that has endured many eras and is a place where many cultural and artistic legacies and talents have been concentrated to create a great spiritual stronghold for the country and our people. These legacies and talents should be preserved and treasured.

In the long course of development, Hanoi has constructed a strong handicrafts and artisan industry which encompasses many traditional trades and sectors. Some of the handicrafts have recently disappeared into oblivion because of a declining demand for them, because they may no longer be to people's liking, or because of policy restrictions. However, new trades and jobs have developed. At the same time, over the past few decades, new industries concentrating on machinery and consumer goods have been created.

With its central position, Hanoi enjoys the advantage of being able to attract the strengths of the entire region and country, and even the world in terms of labor, energy, raw materials, supplies, and equipment in order to quickly, vigorously, and steadily develop its economy. It also has favorable conditions in terms of information, communications, transportation, and domestic and international interchange for spreading its own strengths throughout the region and the country and then to the world market. The problem is that it must correctly determine the guidelines for development, knowing how to establish alliances and muster the strength of production forces for members of alliances to help one another and develop together on the principle of equality and mutual benefits.

With the aforementioned important position and strengths, Hanoi must actively struggle to build a multifarious and rational economic structure. Industry in the capital must advance in the direction of developing the multisectorial commodity economy, using productivity, quality, and efficiency as criteria. First of all, the advantages in terms of sources of energy, raw materials, supplies, and great potentials of intellectual and skilled workers, and also in terms of foreign economic relations must be fully exploited in order to adequately bring into play the strengths of the engineering manufacturing sector.

In Hanoi, we must establish an alliance of regional machinery sectors to include the national defense machinery sector in order to develop by all means the equipment of the handicrafts and artisan, agricultural, transportation, and construction sectors of the capital, and of all provinces in the region and throughout the country; and to reduce the importation of those pieces of machinery and equipment that we can manufacture.

We must resolutely invest in transforming, expanding, and reequipping the mechanical engineering sector, and strive to manufacture products up to standards to meet demands at home and abroad.

Second, while developing engineering, we must determine and mobilize the contingent of intellectuals and skilled workers to integrate the efforts on building key engineering industrial sectors in Hanoi such as electronics, biology, and new materials, especially electronics and information science. The electronics industry must develop along the line of serving both life and everyday activities while supporting production and business to meet the requirements of raising the level of socioeconomic management. We must strive to further develop our skills in assembling and producing spare parts in the advance toward producing more spare parts for use at home in the future.

Third, we must attach importance to developing the processing industry to produce sufficient agro-forestry goods and food such as meat, eggs, milk, vegetables, fruits, and beverages, attracting sources of raw materials from suburban rural areas and regional provinces from the northern mountainous regions to delta and central provinces. We must monitor crop schedules to promptly purchase and process agricultural products to protect the peasants' interests, create a source of goods for business in off-harvest seasons, study markets at home and abroad to regularly improve models and patterns of goods, diversify the varieties of goods, and strive to produce goods of high quality to serve domestic consumption and export.

Accelerating the processing of agro-forestry-marine products is an effective measure to promote agriculture in the suburban areas and the entire region, enhance the value and effectiveness of agricultural production, improve the people's living conditions and their purchasing power, and create a large rural market to develop the commodity economy of the capital as well as of the entire region and nation.

Fourth, we must strive to vigorously develop the production of consumer goods to meet demands of Hanoi, the region, and the country. We must increase export and reduce import. First of all, we must develop the production of existing goods such as consumer machinery, electric and electronic appliances, textile and leather products, clothes, paper, plastic and rubber goods, construction materials, and so forth. At the same time, we must develop new sectors and new types of goods, gradually modernize equipment, and enhance the quality and scientific technicality of products to meet demands and tastes of the consumers. Developing industry along this guideline is to mainly make very important contributions to directly building a firm and strong economic foundation of the worker-peasant-intellectual alliance, consolidating the two-way relationship between industry and agriculture and between cities and rural areas; to meet ever increasing and diversified demands; to promote the development of both rural areas and cities; and to improve the living conditions of the people in general.

Fifth, along with developing industry, we must attach importance to developing small industry and handicrafts by striving to master gradually the use of new technology and industrial equipment to modernize small industry and handicraft establishments. We must also restore and develop the traditional trades and create new jobs in cities and rural areas, develop rural industry to meet the requirements of labor redistribution as part of the process of socializing production, gradually reduce the number of enterprise workers, and increase the volume of social products and income generated by the rural areas.

In Hanoi, we have many favorable conditions and great potential in various fields. As a result, the capital party organization and people can and should actively implement the guideline for development by striving to build Hanoi into one of the major industrial centers to contribute in a worthy manner to national industrialization.

Emphasizes Development of Services

BK1911132791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 Nov 91

[Second of four installments of speech by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, opening session of the 11th second-round congress of the Hanoi party organization on 16 November—recorded]

[Text] Although relocation of the people in Hanoi's suburban area has been implemented, its population is still 50 percent of that of the capital. As a result, you comrades must continue to attach importance to developing agriculture in the suburban area. Demands in food, grains, and fuel for Hanoi are on the increase quantitatively and qualitatively. For this reason, efforts should be made to increase the grain and material production output to serve the capital's processing industry. The capital must, on the one hand, concentrate efforts on expanding intensive cultivation by applying technical innovation to production, as well as positively implementing industrialization by promoting small mechanical and electrical engineering and biochemistry, thereby helping to enhance the results in cultivation and food processing. On the other hand, the capital must expand joint ventures with provinces in the region and throughout the country to ensure a smooth supply of food and grain to the people and raw materials to processsing industries in the capital, thereby meeting its demands for consumption and export.

It can be said that trade and services in Hanoi developed fairly quickly. However, besides the advantage derived from the expansion of goods circulation and improvement of services to meet requirements for production and consumption, negative phenomena have also emerged. These include illegal business and trading, tax evasion, and smuggling goods in large volume, thereby creating a tendency to prefer foreign-made goods, causing setbacks in modest manufacturing, affecting the work of the laboring people, reducing national revenue and foreign currency inflow, and depreciating the Vietnamese dong. This is a very important issue causing damage to the national welfare and the people's livelihood. It is necessary to say that Hanoi is one of the key locations for smuggling foreign goods. This is a serious shortcoming of Hanoi as well as of other functional agencies at the central level that must be promptly resolved.

To overcome this situation, on the one hand, the capital must consolidate, perfect, and purify the management mechanism, as well as ensure freedom in doing business under the state law. Business establishments must be registered and function according to their licenses, receipts must be issued in selling and buying merchandise, regulations on business accounting and statistics must be strictly implememted, trademark and quality of goods must be registered, and production of fake goods prohibited. Those who want to trade in foreign goods must seek permission from the state; they must pay import taxes, present bank statements of their foreign and Vietnamese currencies, strictly abide by the foreign exchange regulations, and pay full taxes levied on their business.

To fulfill these tasks, various party organizations must strive to strengthen their leadership role, mass organizations must encourage and motivate businessmen to engage in trading, state agencies must strengthen management and control work to ensure that everyone works freely in accordance with the law. Those involved in corruption, authorities who did not enforce the law, and bribe recipients must be dealt with seriously.

It is necessary to promulgate policies on encouraging investment in production, provide guidance for traders to shift to diversified forms of business or to do business while engaging in production, and motivate the people to use home-manufactured goods. Producers must surge forward to improve the quality of their goods to be able to compete with foreign goods to regain their markets.

It is also necessary to comprehensively develop services, especially technical and raw material supply services, consumption, financial and credit, information, transportation, and cultural services. We must organize services in a civilized manner to promote production and living conditions while maintaining the beauty of the environment, thus making Hanoi worthy as the capital of Vietnam.

With its potential and strength, Hanoi must expand joint ventures with provinces in the region and throughout the country to develop tourism and improve tourist activities in the capital. It must strive to release the production force, encourage practicing thrift and saving for investment, exploit the great potential of the nation, and strive to develop the multisectorial economy. In this context, we must inspect, monitor, and help economic establishments in Hanoi to consolidate and develop their businesses. We must formulate measures, plans, and policies to strengthen these establishments. These include efforts to improve production and modernize equipment, strengthen the management mechanism, and set up a board of management at some establishments. We must clearly define the role of the state representative, manager, and party leadersip at these establishments. We must also clearly define the limitation of state intervention to activities of enterprises to avoid obstruction to their production and business and to encourage them to abide by the law. Enterprises are not allowed to spend more than what they have earned. They must make contributions in accordance with the law and not to arbitrary demands by some sectors. Enterprises operated at a loss will be dissolved and those that committed economic crimes must take responsibility of their deeds. Workers should not earn more than their productivity. Those who work less will earn less and vice versa, while those who did not work will earn nothing. We must strictly implement the policy on labor by laying off workers if we do not have jobs for them. The state is formulating a policy on assisting the unemployed. These are the major issues that we must resolve to enhance the efficacy of state-run business, maintain the capital's active role in economic activities, and lead other economic components to advance along the socialist path. We may also use such forms as joint venture, partnership, bidding, and lending to encourage all people to invest in business to mobilize capital from the masses for production.

The collective economy and the cooperative economy need to reorganize on the principles of voluntarism, mutual benefit, and democracy in management. They must exist according to production and business needs. They are not to be organized by administrative order.

The cooperative economy is to be organized in diversified forms at different levels to meet the requirement of local production and business of the same sector or different sectors under total cooperation or cooperation in part.

The government must have policies to encourage or help with materials, equipment, or credit line to develop the cooperation, thus benefiting the national economy. That is the new and correct concept in developing the cooperative economy which we need to firmly understand for better implementation.

Apart from consolidation and strengthening of the state economy sector in the main industries and encouraging maturing of the cooperative economy, we encourage people to save, invest, and develop in private economy, individual economy, and family economy to put more labor force and private assets into production and business, striving to implement the undertaking of making people rich and the nation strong.

We must have policies and assistance to create a favorable atmosphere for the development of industry and small industry and handicrafts, encouraging people to save for investment to restore and develop traditional trade and to start new trade, and meeting the diversified needs of the domestic and export markets.

With its favorable position, Hanoi should encourage national and overseas businessmen to invest more in the capital's production and business. It should encourage overseas Vietnamese, especially those who used to live here, to invest in Hanoi to contribute their share in building this capital.

Together with encouragement for development of every economic sector, we encourage the development of different types of cooperation and joint ventures between different economic sectors within the country and from other countries, including the development of services to overseas Vietnamese.

Together with economic activities, Hanoi must concentrate on solving many social, educational, medical, and cultural issues to further improve welfare service for Hanoi's people in undertaking the capital's construction.

In past years, some encouraging achievements have been made in these fields. However, shortcomings and week points still exist. I suggest that the party committee, government, and mass organizations put more effort into implementing their work in these areas, focusing on upgrading the people's knowledge and health, and in building a modern national cultural life for Hanoi's people, thus helping to deserve the tradition, potential, and position of Hanoi as the capital.

The Hanoi city management has some problems in security and social safety. The Hanoi cadres and people have strived to restore social order and purify society. However, the situation is still serious. Social vices and criminal activities are not decreasing. Enemy forces are exploiting the situation to conduct sabotage activities against us. Therefore, in the years ahead, the tasks of political, security, social order, and safety protection and the duty of cleaning up the capital are very urgent and formidable.

To meet the demand of economic, social, and cultural development; create more jobs; maintain social order and security; and improve people's living standards, we have to increase investment in Hanoi with different sources of capital to develop industrial and agricultural production; to increase service, building infrastructure and the social economy; and to improve housing service to the public. We must pay particular attention to the building of infrastructure and an important transportation system. We have to guarantee energy, water resources, and communications; gradually solve problems in transportation; broaden transportation service; and dredge canals and rivers. We must strive to basically solve the inner city drainage system, upgrade and expand public parks, plant more trees in the city, rearrange markets and shops, and restore historic relics and cultural and tourist-attraction buildings. We also have to pay appropriate attention to the work of environmental protection, fighting pollution in the development process.

We have to concentrate the intellectual wisdom of scientists from different fields to urgently study the construction of a socioeconomic development strategy for Hanoi. We have to basically define the total planning of the capital and set up positive measures and plans to implement city planning. We must make Hanoi deserve the face of our country; make it become rich in economy, clean in society, and civilized and elegant with beautiful scenery; and have it reflect simultaneously the thousands of years of Vietnamese culture and the modernity of our capital at the present time.

Hanoi must closely coordinate with the central government branches and sectors to implement these tasks.

Stresses Importance of Party Building

BK2011131991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 17 Nov 91

[Third of four installments of speech by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, opening session of the 11th second-round congress of the Hanoi party organization on 16 November—recorded]

Dear comrades: To achieve the above-mentioned orientations and aims, we should attach the greatest importance to party building, renovate and improve the party leadership, and improve the management of the administration at all levels as well as the role of various mass organizations. Consolidating and building the party politically, ideologically, and organizationally is now the most important and pressing task for the Hanoi Party Organization.

With a tradition of persistent revolutionary struggle and sound political acumen, the Hanoi Party Organization has faced many ordeals. Though many, its members, however, are not strong enough. A segment of them have shown declining militancy and several have been found to have denegerated and deviated. Its internal ranks have been adversely affected by the complex economic, political, and social situation developments at home and the abroad. The negative impact of the market mechanism, the comprehensive and far-reaching socialist crisis, the offensive launched by hostile forces to eliminate socialist countries, and the sophisticated and perfidious schemes of their peaceful evolution is of specific concern. The Hanoi Party Organization should strive to make the people of the capital fully aware of all these facts.

It is necesary to fully develop democracy in the party and among the people. Also, it is necesary to make everyone aware of the path chosen by the party and Uncle Ho—that is, struggling for national independence and the people's happiness, and successfully building a civilized, prosperous, and beautiful socialist society—conforms with the ardent desire and the unshakable determination of our people. This is also compatible with the evolutionary law of mankind.

This spirit has in the past led the people including the organization to overcome countless difficulties in speeding up the renovation, so that they can continue to stand firmly on their own feet and to progress. To keep the country stable so that we can overcome ordeals and grow, we have to promptly carry out the renovation with the appropriate orientations, steps, and work methods.

It is necessary for us to be aware of our achievements to consolidate our confidence in the party lines and build an increasingly stable party and renovate the party organization leadership.

The Hanoi Party Organization should listen to the views of its cadres and people, learn from experience, and renovate leadership methods. It should fully develop democracy among the party and the people while maintaining public order and discipline. To achieve this, the party organization should, on the one hand, involve itself more deeply with the grassroots by determining the correct orientations and tasks. They should also come up with practical measures to promote a broad section of party members and people of various strata to improve their militancy and determination for achieving the above objectives at all costs. Political and ideological leadership is necessary to get the public to think and act harmoniously along the course of the revolution.

We must stick to various socioeconomic development tasks. These are to be concerned about economic development, to solve unemployment, struggle for social justice, and improve the people's welfare. Meanwhile, we should purify the party, resolutely oppose all its negative phenomena, and detect and severely deal with corruption to consolidate the people's confidence in the party's organization and militancy.

Building a clean and steadfast grass-roots party organizations is of decisive importance in party policy. This is because the grass-roots organizations provide the venue for translating all party and state resolutions, lines, and policies into reality. This is also represents the staging area of the struggle for successful socialist construction.

Not a few grass-roots establishments of the Hanoi Party Organization have displayed many weaknesses. The party organization should consolidate its grass-roots party establishments and regard this as a key task to ensure the success of the struggle against corruption, harassment, and irresponsibility. Through these, we should consolidate the party organization and the administration at all levels and strengthen policies aimed at maintaining the municipality's stability.

In consolidating the party and the grass-roots administration, cadre assignments are a key issue. Hanoi cadres are required to surge forward, to be dynamic and creative, to steel themselves in political acumen and militancy, to strengthen their unity, and to improve their knowledge in all aspects for the heavy tasks of the new situation. It is necessary to provide training to cadres, and to get the people of various generations to mix so that there is positive and steady renewal.

With a bulk of its members retired, and a comparatively large number of them on detached service with various staff organs that have nothing to do with the Hanoi party organization, the party organization should devise plans to motivate and exploit the capabilities of these cadres in implementating the various programs of the party and the state for building the capital.

You, comrades, should pay attention to building the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union so it can be steadfast and a truly reliable brigade of the party. It should foster and create conditions for them to steel themselves into young communists, thus creating a large pool of replacements for party members in the future.

Denotes Administrative Tasks

BK2011135191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 17 Nov 91

[Final of four installments of speech by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, opening session of the 11th second-round congress of the Hanoi party organization on 16 November—recorded]

[Text] The party organization must devote efforts to consolidating and purifying city administrative apparatuses at all levels and to guide them in improving state management in accordance with the law as well as in guaranteeing the people's democratic rights. At the same time, prompt measures must be taken to ensure that local socioeconomic operations develop in an orderly and disciplined manner. Also, efforts are needed to renovate and strengthen mass mobilization work, provide mass organizations with better guidance and help, and quickly renovate organizational work and operating procedures suitable with the new requirements of the situation. It is important to experiment with new forms of mass mobilization work and to take practical measures to meet the earnest aspirations and interests of people of all walks of life, workers, peasants, intellectuals, civil servants, youths, college students, members of the armed forces, retired cadres, war veterans, business people, and compatriots of different religions.

The local work force is relatively young and big in size. It has a sound cultural background and good skills and plays a decisive role in industrial production. Therefore, it is necessary to organize a deep-rooted worker's movement and adopt practical measures to educate workers on the need to firmly grasp the fine nature and key role of the Vietnamese working class in order to benefit the task of safeguarding political stability and promoting local socioeconomic development.

Because peasants in Hanoi enjoy many favorable conditions, they should make efforts to accelerate agricultural production and build a new countryside. Bold measures must be made to apply scientific and technical innovations to agricultural production so as to achieve higher yields, better quality, and work efficiency, and to build a civilized, rich, and beautiful countryside worthy of its role as an integral part of the capital city of Hanoi.

Peasants should make efforts to improve their material and cultural life and at the same time contribute to local economic development and accumulate good experiences for agriculture in general.

The majority of our intellectuals live and work in the capital city of Hanoi and play a decisive role in scientific and technological research to benefit social management. It is necessary to look after the well-being of our brother and sister intellectuals and create favorable conditions for them to bring into full play their talents and wisdom to benefit the common cause of national construction.

It is necessary for the party organization to develop the potential and active role of youths and high school and college students to benefit the overall renovation undertaking, regarding this as a first priority task within the framework of our human resources development strategy. Continued efforts are needed to create favorable social conditions for local youths to develop their talents and personality, work diligently and creatively, abide by the law, show compassion for everyone, and contribute to national construction.

Incentive must be given to encourage local businesspeople to invest in production strictly in accordance with the law and to generate jobs for society, thus enriching themselves while contributing to both local and national economic development according to the abovementioned orientations.

The entire local party organization, armed forces, and people must consolidate unity of mind and action; firmly maintain political stability; fully implement democracy and law enforcement; consolidate national security and defense; push back negativism; guarantee public security and order; carry on the renovation undertaking; and join hands with the entire nation in leading the country out of the socioeconomic crisis, improving the people's material and spiritual life, building a civilized, rich, and beautiful capital city, and contributing to successfully implementing the seventh Party Congress resolution. In this way they will fulfill Venerable Uncle Ho's earnest call for building Hanoi into a civilized, rich, and beautiful city worthy of being the capital of the socialist fatherland.

Dear comrades: Our country's high-level delegation's visit to China has successfully ended, marking the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations and opening a new era for developing the traditional relations of neighborliness and friendship based on the five principles of peaceful coexistence. The normalization of relations between the two parties will be based on the principles of independence, sovereignty, full equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. This conforms to the aspiration and the fundamental and long-term interests of the peoples of the two countries and is an important contribution to regional peace, stability and development. We will implement the Sino-Vietnamese summit accords and at the same time gradually realize specific bilateral ties in the various domains.

The recent friendly visits of our Council of Ministers chairman to Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore have increased understanding and cooperation with these countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. The visit has considerably contributed to building Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation. We hope and believe that the friendship and cooperation among Southeast Asian countries will continue to develop in response to the requirements of the new situation and the interests of the people in each country.

We have participated in the signing of the Paris agreement on an overall political solution to the Cambodian issue and we will implement the agreement. At the same time, we expect the signatory Cambodian factions and countries and the United Nations will correctly implement the agreement to ensure that Cambodia will become a peaceful, independent, sovereign, neutral and nonaligned country having friendly relations with other countries, especially its neighbors.

The deputy ministerial talks between Vietnam and the United States will take place at the end of this month to discuss the bilateral cooperation. We will persist in the policy of normalizing our relations with the United States in the interests of the peoples of the two countries. We have always shown our good will, wishing that the talks will be successfully conducted on the basis of equality without any conditions, and in respect for each other's independence and sovereignty.

Dear comrades, the duty of the party organization and people of Hanoi is heavy yet glorious. The party Political Bureau, Secretariat, and the Council of Ministers will intensify leadership and guidance to help Hanoi and will work regularly with the party leaders and administrators of the capital. The ministries, committees and sectors at the central level should be responsible for guiding, cooperating and helping Hanoi with their policies, particularly by closely cooperating with Hanoi in construction and management, in order to make the capital even better comprehensively and create favorable conditions for it to dynamically surge forward in the renovation process.

The central organs of the party and state should also cooperate with Hanoi to outline, organize and implement the strategy of socioeconomic stabilization, development, and the capital plan. I hope that you, delegates, will uphold your sense of responsibility, bring your ability and wisdom into full play to debate the various congress documents and elect a new executive committee to ensure the city's congress will be a success.

Australia

Parliament To Hold Joint Session To Hear Bush

BK2711094291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0855 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Canberra, Nov 27 (AFP)—The Australian House of Representatives voted Wednesday to reconvene with the Senate on January 2 to hear an address by U.S. President George Bush.

The joint sitting was rescheduled after Bush postponed the start of a four-day visit to Australia from early December to New Year's Eve.

A three-paragraph report on page nine of the Sydney MORNING HERALD said it will cost about one million dollars (800,000 U.S.) to recall the 148 representatives and 76 senators from their Christmas recess.

Voting on Wednesday to allow Bush to address a joint session in the House Chamber on January 2, members rejected a proposal from opposition leader John Hewson that he and Prime Minister Bob Hawke make short welcoming speeches.

House leader Kim Beazley, of the ruling Labor party, said the government saw no need for party leaders to welcome Bush in the chamber, where MPs will be represented by the speaker.

Government Ready To Review Ties With Indonesia

BK2711101191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0851 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Canberra, Nov 27 (AFP)—Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke warned Wednesday that Canberra would review relations with Indonesia if its inquiry into the November 12 East Timor massacre turned into a whitewash.

In a statement likely to strain already delicate bilateral relations, Hawke said if Jakarta's inquiry was a whitewash "then we will have to consider steps to review our policies," clearly referring to Australia's recognition of Indonesia's annexation of East Timor in 1976.

Hawke renewed his call to Jakarta to find "a new momentum" to start peace talks with East Timorese rebels. It was clear, he told parliament, the military solution had failed and Indonesia had not won "the hearts and minds of the people."

The Australian government wanted to ensure the inquiry into the massacre was comprehensive and open, but was not prepared to await the results before moving to help resolve the East Timor conflict, he said.

The premier also announced that Jakarta had accepted a visit in December by Foreign Minister Gareth Evans who would convey Australia's views on what should be done to end the conflict.

The federal government has asked for permission to set up a consulate in Dili and plans to send its ambassador in Jakarta, Philip Flood, on regular visits to the East Timor capital.

Hawke said Australia would explore what role the United Nations could play, as well as supporting Red Cross activities in East Timor.

Earlier, Evans moved to ease rising tensions between the two countries, denying reports that Indonesia was threatening to withdraw its diplomats from Australia.

In a statement released by its embassy in Canberra late Tuesday, Indonesia's minister responsible for security affairs, Admiral Sudomo, threatened to withdraw diplomatic staff if demonstrations persisted in Australia.

But Evans said Sudomo had been "largely misreported" and that what he had really said was that in the event of a serious threat to the life of Indonesian diplomats here they would be recalled.

Evans described the proposition as "terribly self-evident," and said there was no such risk at the moment.

Sudomo's statement followed Evans announcement Tuesday that he would fly to Jakarta in December.

Protests against the massacre continued Wednesday as East Timorese refugees demonstrated outside the Indonesian consulate in the northern city of Darwin.

Evans said Tuesday that Canberra was eager to preserve its relationship with Indonesia and resisted strong pressure from backbench colleagues for a tougher response.

A backbench resolution called for a fundamental shift in policy towards Indonesia, away from backing the government to supporting self-determination for the East Timorese people.

Evans made clear that this was further than the government was prepared to go. He said its policy was still one of support for Indonesian sovereignty and that this would be reviewed only if it deemed Jakarta's investigation of the massacre inadequate.

He rejected protests in the form of the cancellation of ministerial visits, suspension of aid and military links as counter productive.

It would always be "a question whether it's in Australia's interests to break down an important bilateral relationship by steps of that kind and they will continue to be relevant considerations," he said.

Indonesia is Australia's 14th biggest trading partner, with which in 1990 it exchanged 1.3 billion dollars (one billion U.S.) of exports for only 522 million dollars (410 million U.S.) of imports.

Despite his defence of Canberra's relationship with Indonesia, Evans has scorned Jakarta's official estimate that 19 people were killed when troops opened fire on a crowd in the Santa Cruz graveyard, saying the death toll was probably nearer 75.

New Zealand

Government Seeks Extradition of French Agent

BK2611092091 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] New Zealand is seeking the extradition from Switzerland of a French secret agent allegedly implicated in the sinking of the Greenpeace ship, Rainbow Warrior, six years ago.

Police say Gerald Andries, alias Erik Aldrin, was arrested on Saturday by Swiss police. He is wanted on charges of murder, criminal damage, and conspiracy to commit murder.

It is alleged he sailed to New Zealand from New Caledonia on the yacht which delivered the explosives used for the bombing of the vessel.

Bolger on Extradition Attempt

BK2711123991 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0803 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Excerpts] New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger today asked his country to allow a calm and rational assessment of the attempt to extradite alleged Rainbow Warrior bomber Gerald Andries.

The New Zealand media is already noting that in opposition Mr. Jim Bolger condemned the then Labor government's release under French pressure of convicted Rainbow Warrior bombers, Alain Mafart and Dominique Prieur.

Today, Mr. Bolger told Radio New Zealand's Kim Harold that the extradition issue is engendering intense debate but judicial processes must be followed.

[Begin recording] [Bolger] The system protected the (?arrests) that have occurred thus far, [words indistinct] a few hours old, entirely under the jurisdiction and the control of the commissioner of [words indistinct]. He set about his business until he was advised of the arrest of a particular individual in Switzerland and assisted quietly through, I know it, then it caused some great excitement and speculation on [words indistinct] already by media commentators, but I do not intend to hype it up, I think, there is a judicial process to be followed and that has been followed.

[Harold] The judicial process was followed last time until up to a certain point, and that point could be, if the French had talked about trade sanctions, for example?

[Bolger] [words indistinct] a fatalist comment about trade sanctions. We will have to make the observations, but neither France nor New Zealand alone control the GATT talks. Certainly, France has obviously [words indistinct] in the discussions and that could be outcome of the round. But the suggestion that France and New Zealand are the only players and the rest of the world are ambition portrayed with [words indistinct] somehow fall entirely on the fact of the arrest of a French citizen in Switzerland, I think that is [words indistinct].

[Harold] If it comes to the crunch then, if France (?certainly takes) sanctions and retaliation as before, would this government consider arbitration over this alleged Rainbow Warrior participant?

[Bolger] Well, let us first of all see whether the person is the... [changes thought] if were the case [words indistinct] person back to New Zealand in the first stage, and secondly, we have to see that the matter is acceptable, the person [words indistinct] back to New Zealand and then try him at New Zealand Court, we will then have to see whether a New Zealand judge and jury can (?convict) the person, and then we will have to determine what the court recommends after that. I mean, there is this terrible tendency to sort of jump to the end conclusion and try and make some judgments on the theoretical results of a trial which has barely commenced. It is the beginning of the process now. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The chief of staff of the French Armed Forces said today that the improved relations with New Zealand should influence negotiations over the arrested scuba diver. But Admiral Jacques (Langsard) indicated France will want Mr. Andries' return if he is extradited to New Zealand.

Graeme Dobell reports that the French military chief was speaking during the visit to Canberra for talks with the Australian military.

[Begin recording] [(Langsard) in French fading into English translation] I think the relationship, the situation has been difficult in the past and hopefully now we will see reason prevail.

[Dobell] [That was] Admiral (Langsard's) interpreter on the French approach to New Zealand and the reawakening of the Rainbow Warrior affair. The French military man said the two governments had reached an arbitrated agreement over the 1985 bombing, things now were perfectly clear between the two countries, he thought the scuba diver arrested in Switzerland will be covered by that agreement.

[(Langsard)] I think it is in the interest of both France and New Zealand to cooperate. France and New Zealand are two countries that share the same vision of the world and in that sort of framework, I think it is important that they manage to build some sort of cooperation. It should not be difficult for them to do so given they have the same fundamental vision.

[Dobell] Admiral (Langsard) would not be drawn on any French reaction to extradiction of the French diver. It will be a matter of waiting to see whether the relationship with New Zealand was again to be jeopardized. But the chief of staff of the French Armed Forces made clear that France would want freedom for its man.

Would the French military deem it a matter of honor to have one of its own officers return?

[(Langsard)] I think the French Government has the right to defend the freedom of its nationals. I think in this case, the French Government would do the same. [end recording]

Papua New Guinea

Government Condemns Dili Killings After Pressure

BK2611072491 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] The Papua New Guinea Government has finally condemned the Dili massacre. Radio Australia's Port Moresby correspondent, Stephanie Clark, reports the move comes after days of opposition pressure.

[Begin Clark recording] Papua New Guinea has frequently led the way among Pacific island nations in condemning human rights abuses. This time it has been different. The opposition says that because the two countries are fostering closer military links, the opposition has been fighting for days for a stronger stand. Even Attorney General Bernard Narokobi said personally, he had been reconsidering a forthcoming trip to Indonesia.

Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu said last week it was an internal issue for Indonesia. Now, he has told Parliament he condemns the atrocities, but [words indistinct] President Suharto had ordered an inquiry. [end recording]

Red Cross Allowed To Send Relief to Bougainville

BK2611171891 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Papua New Guinea has given the Red Cross free access to Bougainville Island, according to New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister Don McKinnon. He says Papua New Guinea's prime minister, Rabbie Namaliu, gave the approval in a public statement.

A freelance journalist from New Zealand reported on Sunday that medical supplies had been cut and thousands of islanders were dying.

Mr. McKinnon says the New Zealand Goverment was concerned about their welfare and donated about $30,000 to the Red Cross.

The Red Cross says several deliveries had been made to Bougainville. It says the shipments sent from the island of New Britain on 23 November was followed by two chartered planes carrying medical supplies and patients, and it says a ship carrying the remaining supplies will leave for Bougainville next week.